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Children's chorale bags gold in int'l Choir Olympics

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Williams kayoes Tyson in 4th round

■ Section D

Isa pang breakthrough mula sa SMART
LEADER IN WIRELESS, LEADER IN INNOVATION

Staying alive: Angelo tells his story in his own words

FREED BY his Iraqi captors on July 20, truck driver Angelo de la Cruz shared with the INQUIRER his memories of his 17-day ordeal and his thoughts on the kind of life he is trying to live in his newfound freedom.

He spoke with INQUIRER correspondent Tonette Orejas in Kapampangan in his home village of Buenavista, Mexico, in Pampanga.

STAYING/ A21

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Filipino soldiers running out of English, not ammo

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

JOE, PLEASE SLOW DOWN BECAUSE, KASI KWAN...

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Their supply of guns and bullets may be bottomless, for a change. But there's one thing Filipino soldiers participating

FILIPINO/ A21

Gracia's story stirs row

Did she or didn't she clear military? Video disputes DOJ claim

By Alcuin Papa
and Philip C. Tubeza

WHEN Gracia Burnham flew back to the United States on Friday night, she left behind a country she said she had come to love.

She also left a controversy behind.

Did she or did she not clear the Philippine military of charges of conniving with the Abu Sayyaf when she testified in court against the bandit group?

As of yesterday, the Department of Justice was sticking by its prosecutors, who had told reporters that when the American missionary testified on Thursday against the Abu Sayyaf, she told the court in a session closed to the media that there was "no collusion" between the military and her captors.

But video footage of the proceedings before Pasig Regional Trial Court Judge Lorifel Pahimna, which the ABS-CBN network had been showing for the past two days, appeared to cast doubt on the prosecutors' version of her testimony.

The footage showed Burnham on the witness stand. In the background, a defense lawyer could be heard asking her if there had been a collusion between the military and the ASG.

Immediately, the government prosecutors objected, saying the issue was irrelevant to the case.

Pahimna was heard instructing her staff not to record Burnham's answer.

The defense pressed on but was overruled by Pahimna, who said the defense lawyers could "ask her (Burnham) later."

All the while, Burnham was seen on the video seated and not uttering a word.

It was not known if defense lawyers at a later stage did ask her the same question.

In his story on Friday, ABS-CBN reporter Aladdin Bacolodan said he visited Pahimna's office and chanced on the judge's staff reviewing the videotapes of Thursday's special hearing.

Reporters were barred from covering the proceedings held inside Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan and could depend only on the account provided by DOJ prosecutors.

The day she flew out of Manila, local newspapers had already carried under bold headlines the prosecutors' version of her testimony.

If she had been misquoted or if her words had been twisted, Burnham might have wanted to issue a clarification. But in her departure statement—the only statement she gave to media during her brief visit—she avoided any reference to the court proceedings and did not take any questions.

Malacañang and Armed Forces officials expressed satisfaction over her testimony, as reported in the media. Others who later saw the ABS-CBN footage, including lawyers, were confused.

GRACIA'S/ A8

PDI PHOTO

THE VIEW behind the iron grille is a haven for would-be presidents Cory Aquino and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who both sought out the Pink Sisters at the St. Joseph's Convent of Perpetual Adoration in New Manila, Quezon City, one of six in the country, during their electoral travails. In 1986, Ms Aquino spent her last hours as a private citizen praying with the sisters. During the canvassing of votes in the last election, President Arroyo stayed here for nearly seven hours.

Pink Sisters go hi-tech; prayer requests online

By Leo Magno
Editor, Infotech

THEY are seldom seen and seldom heard but even the most powerful people in the country seek guidance and prayer assistance from the Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters.

The Pink Sisters—so-called because of the rose-colored habit they wear—lead a life of seclusion bound by the rule of silence. They live in a cloistered community and follow their ecclesiastical role of perpetual adoration by praying to the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day.

The sisters leave their enclosure only for legitimate reasons such as for medical treatment. They can be seen at the convent only through iron grilles, and their harmonious voices heard when they sing hymns of adoration in their chapel.

"We have a contemplative life. It is a life of withdrawal from the world, but this does not mean we are not in the world. We're so much in the world but not of the world because we believe in a hidden life of prayer and penance," said Sister Mary Germinigildis, superior at St. Joseph's Convent of Perpetual Adoration in New Manila, one of six houses of the Pink Sisters in the Philippines.

As much as the Pink Sisters are in the world, they are on the World Wide Web. They have a website at http://www.adorationsisters.org/index.html containing the history of the order and answers to frequently asked questions. Site visitors can fill up a form in the prayer request page.

Millions of people flock to Pink Sisters convents to ask for intercessional prayers on pieces of paper. Now, they can also make prayer requests online.

The sisters use e-mail for faster worldwide inter-House communications with 20 religious houses and about 420 members in 10 countries worldwide.

Internet and e-mail use is however restricted to the older nuns and only used internally. Their e-mail addresses are not made public, except for that of the main Philadelphia House.

It was in the silent house of the Pink Sisters that former President Aquino and President Macapagal-Arroyo knelt and bowed their heads, away from the noise of politics, during some of the most critical periods in the country's history.

In 1986, Ms Aquino spent her last hours as a private citizen praying with the sisters.

"Cory decided to run for president here in our convent," said Sister Mary.

"She had a whole day of recollection before deciding to run against (then President Ferdinand) Marcos. After she was installed as President, she came back for a thanksgiving Mass," she added.

"GMA (Ms Arroyo) was also here at the height of the canvassing of ballots," said Sister Mary.

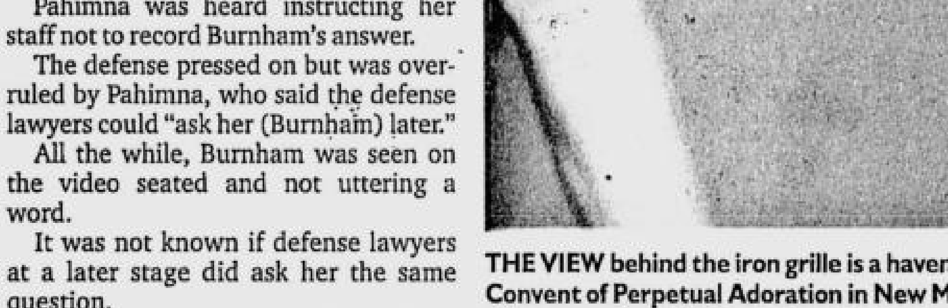
"She prayed with us—she is a very prayerful person—from 2:30 p.m. till around 9 p.m. She also had her Thanksgiving Mass here," she said.

Sister Mary is one of a handful of nuns allowed to speak to outsiders through the iron grilles, at the St. Joseph's Convent. The grille is a symbol of the secluded life the Pink Sisters have chosen. It is a reminder that conscious renunciation of social advantages frees the sisters to devote themselves thoroughly to the quest for God.

Being heads of state, Presidents Aquino and Arroyo were allowed to enter the Pink Sisters' convents. Only the

PINK/ A21

Edsa Shrine artist cries sacrilege over mural restoration



GOD reads the INQUIRER, or used to, anyway. Painter Nemi Miranda painted into his wall-to-wall mural at the Edsa Shrine the PDI issue that bannered the end of the dictatorship.

By Fe Zamora

THE ARTIST who executed the imposing mural of the first People Power Revolution at the Edsa Shrine is crying violation of intellectual property.

Nemi Miranda, the Angono-based muralist and sculptor, yesterday decried that his work had been restored without his permission and guidance, resulting in the complete alteration of about 60 percent of the original.

"This is sacrilege. Nobody should touch a painting without the consent of the artist. I'm still around after all," he said.

"The tonal value and depth have changed, and some historic details are missing. I feel as if my work has been violated," Miranda complained in a mix of English and Filipino.

One of the sections lost in the restoration was the one that featured the Philippine Daily Inquirer, with the banner headline of its Feb. 26, 1986 issue: "It's all over; Marcos flees!"

"It was the only newspaper that gave vital information about the Edsa Revolution. The mural is not complete without that detail. That is no longer the original," the artist said.

According to Miranda, his mural is a visual interpretation of history. Hence, vital details, such as the faces of the key players, dates, names of organizations, mass media outfits like the INQUIRER and Radio Veritas—represented by a transistor radio—and other icons of that specific period in history must be based on fact, he said.

The mural, executed in oil pastel, adorns the upper walls of the Edsa Shrine of Our Lady of Peace, and has stood there since 1989. It was briefly removed for cleaning and restoration in 1998, done by Miranda himself, after the mural developed cracks caused by termites.

Last February, the mural underwent another cleaning and restoration after cracks had again developed and termites attacked again. But when it was put up again, shrine-goers noted that the masthead of the INQUIRER and the banner headline were missing. In its place were faint lines of blue-colored paint.

On the whole, the mural also appeared to have a "faded" look.

A spokesperson for the team that undertook the second restoration denied there had been a deliberate attempt to remove any details or deface the artwork.

"The restorers cannot possibly put something which was no longer there," said Peachy Yamsuan, the communications director of the Archdiocese of Manila.

EDSA/ A8

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy to cloudy with rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	**Roxas**	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	**Cebu**	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	**Tacloban**	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	**Gen. Santos**	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	**Zamboanga**	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	**Cagayan de Oro**	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	**Davao**	Cloudy with Rains

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Country to import P1.3B worth of rice to avert shortage

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE GOVERNMENT through the National Food Authority will import P1.3 billion worth of rice to avert a shortage of the staple similar to what the country experienced in 1995.

In an eight-page opinion, the Department of Justice has given the NFA the go-signal to import 91,500 metric tons of rice worth P1.3 billion through a "negotiated procurement" or without public bidding.

"This department is of the opinion that the proposal to import rice through negotiated procurement is exempt from the requirement of public bidding under existing laws, rules and regulations," acting Justice Secretary Ma. Merceditas Gutierrez said.

The DOJ issued the opinion after then NFA Administrator Arthur Yap, who has since been appointed agriculture secretary, warned of a supply shortfall during the "lean months" of July to September this year.

"If the rice import requirement for 2004 is not addressed immediately, it may result in a supply shortfall which may be likened to the 1995 rice crisis," Yap said.

"Accordingly, the importation of rice through the use of negotiated procurement is necessary in order to maintain the (NFA's) effectiveness in rendering the public service it is providing the public," he added.

A negotiated procurement means the NFA will directly negotiate a contract with a foreign government agency that is "technically, legally and financially" capable of filling up the shortfall.

Yap said the supply shortfall occurred due to the private sector's refusal to avail of its rice import allocation due to the high prices of rice in the world market, which currently range from $220 to as high $257 per metric ton.

Yap said the country's rice import requirement for this year was estimated at 810,00 to 945,000 metric tons. Of this volume, 310,000 metric tons were allocated to farmers' organizations.

But due to the high prices of rice in the world market, the farmers' organizations were only able to import 18,500 metric tons and the NFA had to bid out 200,000 metric tons, Yap said.

This left the country with a rice supply shortfall of 91,500 metric tons which, at $257 per metric ton, would cost P1.3 billion, he said.

Yap said the NFA had to seek the opinion of the DOJ because government rules require the DOJ's nod for contracts worth more than P300 million.

Gutierrez said the DOJ issued the opinion on the assumption that the documents the NFA submitted were all in order.

She said the DOJ has not taken into account the financial and technical merits of the contract since this would be up to the National Economic Development Authority.

GMA orders probe of 'salvage' cops

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has ordered the prosecution of four Metro Manila policemen believed to be involved in summary executions or "salvaging."

"Salvaging has no place in a civilized society where we value human life and protect human rights," Ms Arroyo's spokesperson, Ignacio Bunye, said in a statement yesterday.

Bunye said the involvement of the policemen in summary executions further "demeans the uniform and is a sure-fire recipe for others taking the law in their own hands.

"The President has already ordered the speedy investigation and prosecution of those involved in this barbaric act," Bunye said.

The Calamba, Laguna, police on Friday arrested four policemen from Metro Manila—PO1 Cenon Carolino, PO2 Marcelino Taduyo, PO1 Ramil Marquita and PO1 Reynaldo Soronel—in the act of dumping the body of a man they had allegedly tortured and killed.

It was a suspected case of vendetta killing as the victim was allegedly involved in the death of PO1 Jesus Tatel, detailed at the Pasay police station in 2001, according to one of the suspects.

The four policemen are being held at the Calamba police headquarters.

The policemen and the brother of one officer were arrested Friday after a police patrol found the handcuffed body inside their van on an isolated road in Barangay Bantal in Calamba. Investigators said a nylon rope was still looped around the man's neck. *With an AP report*

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Customs exceeds revenue target

By Martin P. Marfil

CUSTOMS collections continue to exceed targets.

According to Customs Commissioner Antonio Bernardo, figures culled for the first seven months of the year showed that the agency had been able to collect P71.291 billion compared to its target of P63.101 billion, a 13 percent increase.

The government's seven-month take was boosted by preliminary reports showing that the July collections reached P10.724 billion, which was higher than the target of P9.842 billion, Bernardo said.

This, he added, showed that the agency exceeded its target by P882 million or 9 percent.

Compared to last year's January to July figure of P62.189 billion, the P71.291 billion figure for this year was higher by P8.190 billion or 14.6 percent.

The report comes as a big boost for the cash-starved Arroyo administration, which had asked Congress to pass new tax measures aimed at generating P80 billion in new revenues and P100 billion in savings.

The government, which expects a budget deficit of P199 billion this year, believes that the new measures would be sufficient to avert a looming fiscal crisis.

This came as reports about an impending reshuffle in the Cabinet continued to be floated, including reports that Bernardo would be replaced as customs chief.

Asked to react to the reports, Bernardo said that he preferred not to comment at this time.

Traces of oil, gas found off Tawi-Tawi

BONGAO, Tawi-Tawi—A consortium of transnational corporations confirmed the existence of oil and gas reserves in this province following three weeks of exploration.

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Trade Secretary Ishak Mastura said the find could spell dramatic changes for the better not only for the people of the region, which is one of the country's poorest, but also for all Filipinos.

Last week, officials of the consortium said they found indications of oil and gas reserves in the waters between the islands of Mapon and Taganak, some 200 km from here.

Rajia Sahali, executive secretary to Tawi-Tawi Gov. Sadikol Sahali, went so far as to say the find could be the beginning of the country's liberation from its extreme dependence on oil-producing countries.

The consortium, led by Union Oil of California (Unocal), includes BHP Billiton of Australia, Sandakan Oil and at least nine Filipino oil firms.

Mastura said the consortium could recover as much as 500 million barrels of oil and 1.5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas from the area.

The Department of Energy said on its website that the consortium drilled two back-to-back wells over the Southern Sulu Sea. The consortium appropriated $14 million for the drilling activities.

The consortium has a Service Contract 41 for exploration and development of the Sulu Sea area, covering the Sandakan Basin. It was awarded by the energy department on Sept. 1, 1998.

Previous tests had disclosed that the area contained significant recoverable reserves for oil and gas, the energy department said.

The exploration was the first offshore drilling for the year. The consortium drilled to a total depth of 1,850 feet for Zebr-1 well and 935 feet for Rhino-1 well.

According to the DOE, geological and seismic tests conducted in the area showed that the two wells contain about 260 million barrels of oil and 600 billion cubic feet of gas.

Energy Secretary Vince Perez said the find was welcome in a time of uncertainties in the world crude situation.

"The Philippine Government has re-energized our exploration programs to attract exploitation of our own energy resources in times of volatile oil prices," Perez said. *Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Pimentel wants Congress to control Pagcor funds

By TJ Burgonio

OPPOSITION Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday branded as "useless" President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to transfer cash-rich government agencies to line departments unless the President yielded her power to allocate the agencies' funds to Congress.

"It's a step in the right direction, but the bottom-line is where the funds of these agencies will go. Even if transferred to another department, Pagcor funds will still be unaccountable," Pimentel said in a phone interview.

The Senate minority leader pointed out that the transfer of the government's "cash cows" to other line departments would only be "symbolic" if not matched by the transfer of the President's prerogative to appropriate their funds to Congress.

"This will only earn some 'pogi points' for the President," he said, stressing that these agencies' funds should be transferred to the general fund and be appropriated for "people's use" by Congress.

Ms Arroyo has issued five executive orders assigning control of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., the Cooperative Development Authority and the Public Estates Authority to the Department of Finance, and the Philippine National Construction Corp. and the Manila Economic Cultural Office to the Department of Trade and Industry.

The move to give up control of traditional Palace sources of funds was seen as a Presidential gambit to convince lawmakers and the public to approve her P80-billion tax program.

Under the present setup, the president allocates the funds of these agencies for "just about any project" without the approval of Congress, an action that disregards "accountability," Pimentel said.

"It's about time Congress appropriated the funds of these agencies for the people," he said. "If the funds are subject to appropriation by Congress, that will be a substantial transformation of the presidential power over these entities."

Pimentel also noted that the current presidential practice detracts from Congress' "power of the purse" and harks back to the martial law days.

Reyes opposes cutting LGUs' share

DAVAO CITY—Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes is for keeping the entire Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of local government units intact.

Reducing it, as is being proposed by some groups, would be "counter-development" as would affect the delivery of basic services by the LGUs, Reyes told the Maguindanao Conference on Civilian Oversight at the Waterfront Insular Hotel here on Friday.

"It would lessen the capability of the local chief executives to do what the President would want them to do," he said.

Some legislators have proposed that the IRA, which goes to provincial and municipal administrations, be reduced by at least 15 percent to help lessen the country's burgeoning fiscal deficit, a big factor in the country's worsening economic situation.

But Reyes said slashing the IRA would only complicate the situation as it would directly threaten the grassroots.

This was why local chief executives had strongly objected to the proposed cuts, he said.

"It's a very serious matter that needs to be studied," he added.

Government employees here, meanwhile, are divided over another of President Macapagal-Arroyo's proposed measures to reduce the deficit. To trim the bloated government bureaucracy, the President is offering voluntary early retirement packages for state workers.

Some employees said they were willing to retire if the "silver parachute" being offered by the President was attractive enough.

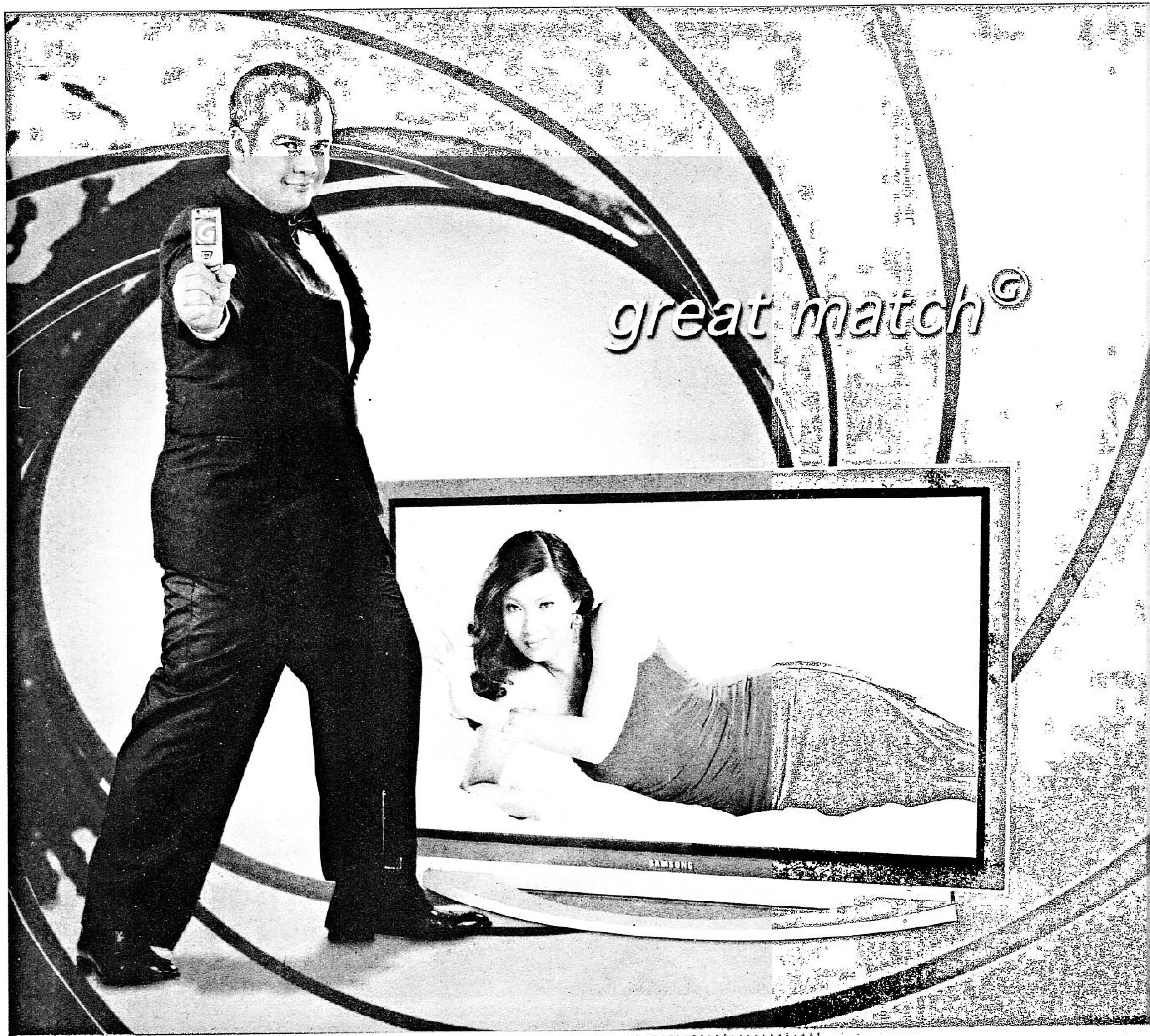
Henry Palomata, a driver for 25 years of the state-owned dxRP radio station, said he would be very happy to leave the government service and start a business of his own if the amount was right.

"Maybe I'd operate my own taxi [service]," Palomata said.

"A silver parachute means a good package," says Felix Irlandez, 60, an information officer at the Philippine Information Agency (PIA).

"She [Ms Arroyo] talks of silver. I hope she means 250 percent of our expected retirement pay," said Irlandez.

"After 37 years, I will take it. Besides, it will not be offered on ordinary retirement. Such a good offer would never come again, so it's best to grab it while it is there," he said. *Anthony S. Allada and Germelina A. Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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GMA asks religious leaders to take part in 'values formation'

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has asked the country's most influential religious leaders to join an 11-member presidential commission that would "institutionalize" moral values in the government and file graft charges against corrupt personnel.

A Palace official, who declined to be named, said Ms Arroyo had invited Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, Iglesia Ni Cristo Executive Minister Eraño G. Manalo, Jesus Is Lord leader Bro. Eddie Villanueva and El Shaddai leader Bro. Mike Velarde to join the Presidential Commission on Values Formation.

Ms Arroyo said the PCVF "shall be the lead agency by which government may work hand-in-hand with civil society and the private sector in the establishment of a strong foundation for moral values formation in the government bureaucracy."

The President also authorized the PCVF to file graft charges against corrupt government personnel.

"The PCVF shall make periodic recommendations to the President with regard to any duly supported and substantiated information on incorrigible and undesirable government personnel. Upon the written approval of the President, the PCVF may appear as the complainant in any case filed pursuant to such recommendations before the appropriate government agency," the President said.

The Palace official said Rosales, the highest official of the Catholic Church in the country, agreed to join the PCVF following a phone conversation with the President on Wednesday.

"Archbishop Rosales agreed to be part of the commission," the official told the INQUIRER.

But Velarde's spokesperson Mel Robles said he was not aware that the President had invited the El Shaddai leader to join the PCVF.

Robles said Velarde doubted if values could be treated like a government program.

"You cannot legislate values," Robles said in a phone interview with the INQUIRER.

Conrado "Dodi" Limcaoco, presidential adviser for media and ecclesiastical affairs, declined to confirm the President's invitation to the religious leaders.

He also refused to discuss how the PCVF will function, saying it was still a "work in progress."

Ms Arroyo created the 11-member commission on April 30 through Executive Order 314 to be a "strong base for moral values formation in the government bureaucracy."

She had originally intended the PCVF to be headed by a presidential adviser with six members to be appointed by her.

But the President issued another EO dated June 8 revising the composition of the commission.

Instead of a presidential adviser as its head, Ms Arroyo designated herself as chair of the PCVF. The membership was also expanded from six to 10.

The President has asked the Department of the Budget and Management to source funds for the operation of the PCVF.

In her EO, she said that since good governance was a cornerstone of her administration, it was "imperative that there be a continuing and intensified drive against graft and corruption, patronage politics, apathy, passivity, mendicancy, factionalism and lack of patriotism as a stated purpose and critical lynchpin" of her administration's success.

Ms Arroyo said the PCVF shall design and implement programs aimed at inculcating the values of honesty, modesty, integrity and good work ethics in the government bureaucracy.

She said the PCVF shall coordinate and support non-government organizations and the private sector in the effort.

Oil firms to hike prices Monday

By Abigail L. Ho

FIRST the bad news: the prices of gasoline and diesel fuel will again be raised by 50 centavos a liter starting Monday.

There seems to be no good news. Oil firms cannot guarantee that the price increase will be the last for the month, much less can they say if the world oil situation would improve sufficiently to allow for a price rollback.

Oil refiner Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and finished product importers Caltex Philippines Inc., Eastern Petroleum Corp. and Seaoil Petroleum Corp. announced they would implement the price increase at 12:01 a.m. on Monday.

New player Flying V will follow suit a day later.

The prices of kerosene will also be increased by the same amount.

Shell general manager for external affairs Roberto Kanapi told the INQUIRER yesterday that the price hikes were unavoidable, given the rising prices of crude in the world market over the past weeks.

Driving up world prices, he said, were the persistent threat of terrorist attacks on Middle East oil installations as well as the problems in Russia. Rumors were rife last week that troubled Russian oil giant Yukos would be forced to halt its oil exports. The Russian government moved quickly to squelch such talks but uncertainties remain.

"The increase is the result of the continuing escalation of international finished product prices, with oil hitting 21-year highs last Friday," Seaoil president Glenn Yu said.

Asked if more price increases could follow within the month, Kanapi said it was difficult to speculate at this time as movements of international prices were erratic.

"We'll continue to monitor prices, although they really seem to be on an uptrend," he said. "We can't predict if prices will go down as prices remain very volatile."

Going into the winter months, he said, prices were expected to again spike with the expected increased demand of fuel for heating in western countries..

Unleaded gasoline, as shown in the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) benchmark for finished products, had been trading in the past few days at an average of $47.50 a barrel, more than $2 higher than the June average of $45.19 a barrel.

Refund gun permit fees—Chavez

By Philip C. Tubeza

FORMER Solicitor General Francisco Chavez has asked the Supreme Court to reverse its decision last month upholding the nationwide gun ban that President Macapagal-Arroyo imposed in 2003.

In a 30-page motion, Chavez also asked the Philippine National Police to refund the fees totaling P128 million that gun owners had paid for the Permits to Carry Firearms Outside of Residence (PTCFOR) which the PNP revoked after the gun ban was implemented.

"Upon the revocation of their PTCFORs, petitioner and other gun owners did not get anything in return for the fees they paid to the government. They shelled out money for the required fees and the government, by canceling the PTCFORs, gobbled up the gun-owners' money," Chavez said.

"This is plain and simple robbery, a fraud. Surely, this cannot be allowed. It was as if the petitioner paid for nothing at all. The PNP has not offered to refund payments made by the gun owners. Is it now entitled to keep the P128 million in gun owners' money?" he said.

Chavez said there were an estimated 32,000 holders of PTCFORs who paid a minimum of P4,000 each for permits-to-carry firearms before the gun ban was implemented.

In its June 9 ruling, the high tribunal unanimously dismissed Chavez's petition challenging the gun ban, saying that carrying firearms was not a constitutionally protected right.

The President imposed the gun ban in January 2003 and ordered PNP chief Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. to cancel existing PTCFORs and suspend the issuance of these permits.

Ebdane then issued a set of guidelines to implement the gun ban.

However, Chavez insisted that citizens had the basic right to defend themselves, noting that a gun ban did not deter criminals from committing crimes.

"Even if the Philippine Constitution does not expressly grant the right to bear arms, citizens have the inherent right to protect their lives, which cannot be taken away by any law, much less mere implementing guidelines," Chavez said.

He cited a study made by lawyer Roy M. Manuel Villasor of the National Defense College, which showed that a gun ban had "no significant effect" on the country's total crime volume (TCV).

Villasor noted that despite a six-month gun ban during the 1998 elections, the TCV still rose by .69 percent.

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Schilling abductor nabbed

By Julie S. Alipala, Rosa-May V. de Guzman and Edwin O. Fernandez
PDI Mindanao Bureau
and Alcuin Papa in Manila

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A leader of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group which abducted American Jeffrey Schilling in August 2000 was captured by troops in Mindanao, the military said.

Bindang Andang, one of the most wanted Abu Sayyaf members with a P1 million bounty on his head, was nabbed in Tawi-Tawi on Friday night while aboard a ferry by Philippine Marine and elements of the Navy's Task Force 62.

The military said agents disguised as ferry passengers captured Andang shortly before the vessel arrived in Tawi-Tawi from nearby Jolo.

Commodore George Uy, commander of the Naval Forces South, declined to give further details saying the operation was ongoing.

Task Force 62 commander Capt. Feliciano Angue said a warrant of arrest had been issued against Andang who was also allegedly involved in the abduction of 53 students and teachers in Tumahubong and Sumisip, Basilan, in March 2000. A Catholic priest and three teachers were killed in that incident.

Schilling, said to be a Muslim convert, was lured into the Abu Sayyaf camp in the jungles of Jolo and was held captive for nearly eight months. He finally escaped during a military assault on the kidnappers' lair in April 2001.

The military said Andang was a relative of detained Abu Sayyaf leader Galib Andang, known as Commander Robot, who stands accused of leading the raid on the Malaysian resort of Sipadan in April 2000 and seizing 21 foreign tourists and resort workers. The hostages were released after millions of dollars in ransom was reportedly paid by Libya.

Commander Robot was captured late last year and is now in detention in Bicutan, Taguig.

In a separate incident, one Abu Sayyaf member was killed in a clash with military forces in Tawi-Tawi.

Andang's capture came five days after the military bagged three Abu Sayyaf bandits reportedly planning to sow terror in this city.

Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga said Nidjal Pajiran, alias Ustadz Abdurahman, Abu Kudama and Dodong; Musar Ansar, alias Asraf Hadjirul and Abu Abu Hayyan, and Abrar Kumpoy Engliong, alias Abu Abrar, Tuan and Abs were captured during separate operations here.

Senga said Pajiran was nabbed at a checkpoint while on board a motorcycle on July 26. *With AFP, AP reports*

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A SOLDIER stands guard over the military truck that fell on its side while negotiating a curve in Pagalungan, Maguindanao. Twenty-one Filipino soldiers were hurt in the accident. AFP PHOTO

Soldiers hurt in truck crash

COTABATO CITY—Twenty-one Filipino soldiers providing security for American troops in the ongoing RP-US Balance Piston joint antiterror exercise in Carmen, North Cotabato, were injured in a road accident in Maguindanao on Friday.

Of the 21 members of the 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion, seven were seriously hurt, according to Lt. Col. Franklin del Prado, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division.

Del Prado identified the gravely injured as Corporals Jimmy Lee, Bernal Garcia and Romeo Allado, and Privates First Class Wilmar Villagamos, Detora Pahubasan, Joffrey Mendez and Henry Gadlo.

Del Prado said the soldiers had come from Camp Lucero in Carmen and were on their way to the 6th ID in Awang, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao, when their military truck landed on its side in Pagalungan town.

Del Prado said the driver of the 6x6 truck lost control of the vehicle as he was negotiating a sharp curve, causing it to roll onto its side.

Balance Piston, involving some 30 members of the US Special Forces from Okinawa, Japan, and 160 Filipino soldiers began on July 26. It will end on Aug. 13. *Rosa-May V. de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY)—Robbery with homicide—The accused must be shown to have the principal purpose of committing robbery, the homicide being committed either by reason of or on occasion of the robbery. The homicide may precede robbery or may occur thereafter. What is essential is that there is a nexus, an intrinsic connection between the robbery and the killing. The latter may be done prior to or subsequent to the former. However, the intent to commit robbery must precede the taking of the victim's life. Furthermore, the constituted crimes of robbery and homicide must be consummated. A homicide is considered as having been committed on the occasion or by reason of the robbery when the motive of the offender in killing the victim is to deprive the latter of his property, to eliminate an obstacle to the crime, to protect his possession of the loot, to eliminate witnesses, to prevent his being apprehended or to insure his escape from the scene of the crime. [Citations omitted.] [En Banc, Justice Callejo, Sr., People vs Reyes, G.R. No. 153119. April 13, 2004]

BY R. B. VERA

Aid poor nations, RP urges APEC

BENGZON

THE PHILIPPINES, in the recently held 4th APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, appealed to the developed countries of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to assist the developing nation-members in the fight against terrorism.

In his opening statement, Department of Transportation and Communications Undersecretary Agustin R. Bengzon, representing Secretary Leandro R. Mendoza as head of the Philippine delegation, urged "developed nations to ease the financial burdens of developing economies in meeting the competing needs of uplifting the welfare of the marginalized and fighting terrorism."

Primary concern

Bengzon stressed that "the primary concern of developing nations like the Philippines is how to allocate limited resources between alleviating poverty and combating terrorism."

After all, he said, "an impoverished populace is fertile ground for potential terrorists."

Although he acknowledged the efforts of the developed APEC countries to address the needs of the developing economies in their counter-terrorism activities, Bengzon emphasized that "more must be done to assist developing countries in combating terrorism."

Weakest link

Fighting terrorism is a global effort requiring the cooperation of all nations, he said, because "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link."

The three-day ministerial meeting on July 27-29 focused on the exchange of views among the APEC countries on key issues such as trade and investment liberalization and transport security.

The other members of the seven-man Philippine delegation represented the different agencies of the DOTC, namely, Assistant Secretary Anneli R. Lontoc of the Land Transportation Office, Chair Maria Elena H. Bautista of the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board, Assistant Secretary Nilo C. Jatico of the Air Transportation Office, Executive Director Tomas Mañalac of the Civil Aeronautics Board, Deputy Administrator Lamberto V. Pia of the Maritime Industry Authority and Assistant General Manager Aida P. Dizon of the Philippine Ports Authority.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

In the Order dated 26 July 2004, issued by the Honorable Court of RTC-Branch 77 of Quezon City, the production of the body of Francisco Guy Co Chia at the Cardinal Santos Medical Center for medical examination was ordered, to wit:

"WHEREFORE, respondent Gilbert Guy is hereby directed to bring the person/ body of his father Francisco Guy Co Chia, to the Cardinal Santos Medical Center under the supervision of the Special Sheriffs appointed/ designated by this Court in its Order, dated July 16 2004, within twenty-four (24) hours from notice of this Order, for further examinations by Drs. Pia Banico and Rogelio Libarnes at the said medical center.

"The Special Sheriffs are hereby directed to submit their report on the proceedings taken by them, within twenty-four (24) hours from termination thereof.

"The examining physicians are likewise directed to submit their report on the medical examinations conducted by them, within twenty-four (24) hours from the culmination of the medical examinations."

"SO ORDERED.

"Quezon City, Philippines, July 26, 2004."

(sgd.) VIVENCIO S. BACLIG
Judge

However, the whereabouts of Francisco Guy Co Chia cannot be determined at present. In view of urgency for Francisco Guy Co Chia to be brought to the hospital at the soonest possible time, there is need that information be obtained as to his whereabouts.

Reward is waiting for any person who will give valid information that will lead to the whereabouts of Francisco Guy Co Chia and his being brought to the hospital thereafter. Please course your calls to Victor L. Chan Law Office & Associates at telephone numbers 724-66-29 & 721-92-83.

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Nene: RP vets may feel brunt of US ire over Iraq pullout

By TJ Burgonio

UNLESS it is appeased by the Philippine government, the United States might "freeze" pending legislation that seeks to grant pension benefits to Filipino war veterans in retaliation for last month's pullout of Filipino troops from Iraq.

Sen. Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel Jr. yesterday voiced the fear that the much-anticipated benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II might be the next "target of reprisal" by the US, which deplored the country's withdrawal of its 51-man humanitarian contingent from Iraq.

Pimentel said that a bill granting pension and other benefits to local WWII veterans at par with their American counterparts was being deliberated upon in the US Congress when the diplomatic row erupted between Manila and Washington over the troop pullout.

"I'm afraid that this bill, called the Filipino War Veterans Equity Act, will be the next target of pressure by the Americans to make us really toe the line," Pimentel said in a statement.

To avert the possible delay, or worse, the shelving of the bill, the government should "face squarely the reality of strained Philippine-US relations by taking decisive action to placate Washington and explain its decision on the issue," he said.

A delay in the approval of the bill, Pimentel stressed, would only deepen the injustice suffered by the veterans, "who deserved to be rewarded for risking their lives in defending the country" during the Second World War.

The approval of the veterans benefits bill was a commitment made by President George W. Bush to President Macapagal-Arroyo during the latter's state visit to the US in May 2003, according to the senator.

The Philippine government decided to pull out its humanitarian contingent last month after a shadowy group of Iraqi militants threatened to behead Filipino truck driver Angelo de la Cruz if the troops were not withdrawn by July 20.

The move drew reproach from the US and other allies in the "coalition of the willing," who said the move only emboldened terrorists.

Pimentel noted that apart from the criticism, the extent of Washington's dismay with Manila could be seen in the sudden departure of Ambassador Francis Ricciardone for the US immediately after the pullout.

It was understandable that the ambassador was offended by the pullout because he was among the US officials who had planned the transition and hand-over of sovereign control to the Iraqis, Pimentel said.

Ricciardone's departure was followed by the deportation from the US of expatriate Filipinos, mostly undocumented and convicted felons, according to Pimentel.

"How can we argue against that? But just the same, the timing of the deportation is suspect," he said.

STOP UNJUST DEPORTATION OF FILIPINOS
RANTE-U
STOP UNJUST DEPORTATIONS OF FILIPINOS

FILIPINO-AMERICANS and members of Migrante-USA, an immigrants' NGO, protest the deportation from the United States of possibly up to 300,000 Filipinos which they said was in retaliation for the Philippine pullout of its troops from Iraq. The US, however, said the deportees were undocumented aliens and those convicted of crimes. JOAN BONDOC

THE DAILY GOSPEL

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Sunday, August 1, 2004
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ecl 1:2; 2:21-23

All is meaningless—says the Teacher—meaningless, meaningless!

For here was a man who toiled in all wisdom, knowledge and skill and he must leave all to someone who has not worked for it. This is meaningless and a great misfortune. For what profit is there for a man in all his work and heart—searching under the sun? All his days bring sorrow, his work grief; he hasn't, moreover, peaceful rest at night: that too is meaningless.

2nd Reading: Col 3:1-5, 9-11

So then, if you are risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above, not on earthly things. For you have died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, reveals himself, you also will be revealed with him in Glory.

Therefore, put to death what is earthly in your life, that is immorality, impurity, inordinate passions, wicked desires and greed which is a way of worshiping idols.

Do not lie to one another. You have been stripped of the old self and its way of thinking to put on the new, which is being renewed and is to reach perfect knowledge and the likeness of its creator. There is no room for destination between Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, foreigner, slave or free, but Christ is all and in all.

Gospel: Lk 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus, "Master, tell my brother to share with me the family inheritance." He replied, "My friend, who has appointed me as your judge or your attorney?" Then Jesus said to the people, "Be on your guard and avoid every kind of greed, for even though you have many possessions, it is not that which gives you life."

And Jesus continued with this story, "There was a rich man and his land had produced a good harvest. He thought: 'What shall I do? For I am short of room to store my harvest.' So this is what he planned: 'I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones to store all this grain, which is my wealth. Then I may say to myself: My friend, you have a lot of good things put by for many years. Rest, eat, drink and enjoy yourself.' But God said to him: 'You fool! This very night your life will be taken from you; tell me who shall get all you have put aside?' This is the lot of the one who stores up riches instead of amassing for God."

Commentary

The vision of Qoheleth the preacher (1st reading) is a particularly bleak one. It still appeals greatly to people with a pessimistic turn of mind. "I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing of the wind" (1:14). Scholars say it represents an era of crisis in biblical history, a period of self-questioning; and that through it came a deepening of the spirit. If so, then we can hope that the same may be true of our own times.

No one can deny that there is truth in what Qoheleth says. If only he had been around to advise Herod and Herodias! Like them don't we all give ourselves (and others) a lot of agony about words and thoughts, privileges and possessions and appearances...? We are capable of ruining our health, our peace of mind and the peace of our homes for nothing. "Vanity of vanities!"

Jesus takes up this theme in the gospel reading, expressing it typically as a story. But there is a difference. Qoheleth says the rich man is foolish because he "must leave all to someone who has not worked for it." In other words, he is foolish to have worked, because he cannot enjoy all the fruits of it himself. Jesus said the rich man is foolish because he does not "amass for God." That expression meant almsgiving (see Lk 12:33; 16:9).

Though these two readings are alike in subject and even in the direction of what they say, they are worlds apart. Two lines of T.S. Eliot's come to mind, "The last temptation is the greatest treason: / To do the right thing for the wrong reason."

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DOMINGO, Konde Luciano P.	Computer Engineering	Ateneo de Manila University
EMPLEO, Enrico Carlo C.	BS Mechanical Engineering	University of the Philippines – Diliman
IQUIN, Jerick C.	BS Elec. & Comm. Engineering	University of Santo Tomas
LACSON, Carlos Miguel M.	BS Elec. & Comm. Engineering	Ateneo de Manila University
PUNSALAN, Mary Ann A.	BS Management Economics	Ateneo de Manila University
REYES, Jemma Marie D.	BS Statistics	De La Salle University
ROGEL, Edward Andrew P.	BS Management Engineering	Ateneo de Manila University
ROLLAN, Rhett Albert A.	BS Mathematics	University of the Philippines – Diliman
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TUTOR, Kristoffer T.	BS Elec. & Comm. Engineering	University of San Carlos

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DATUKON, Norman Farrish A.	BS Accountancy	Ateneo de Davao
DINOPOL, Christine E.	BS Information Technology	Mindanao State University
LIPAE, Alexander Ian Y.	BS Civil Engineering	University of the Philippines – Los Baños

CAGAYAN DE ORO (4 SLOTS)

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LIM, Joseph Christopher George E.	BS Accountancy	Ateneo de Manila University
MONARCA, Jeosid Dave L.	BS Accountancy	Xavier University
ROMUALDO, Kate Russel S.	BS Elec. & Comm. Engineering	Mindanao Polytechnic State College

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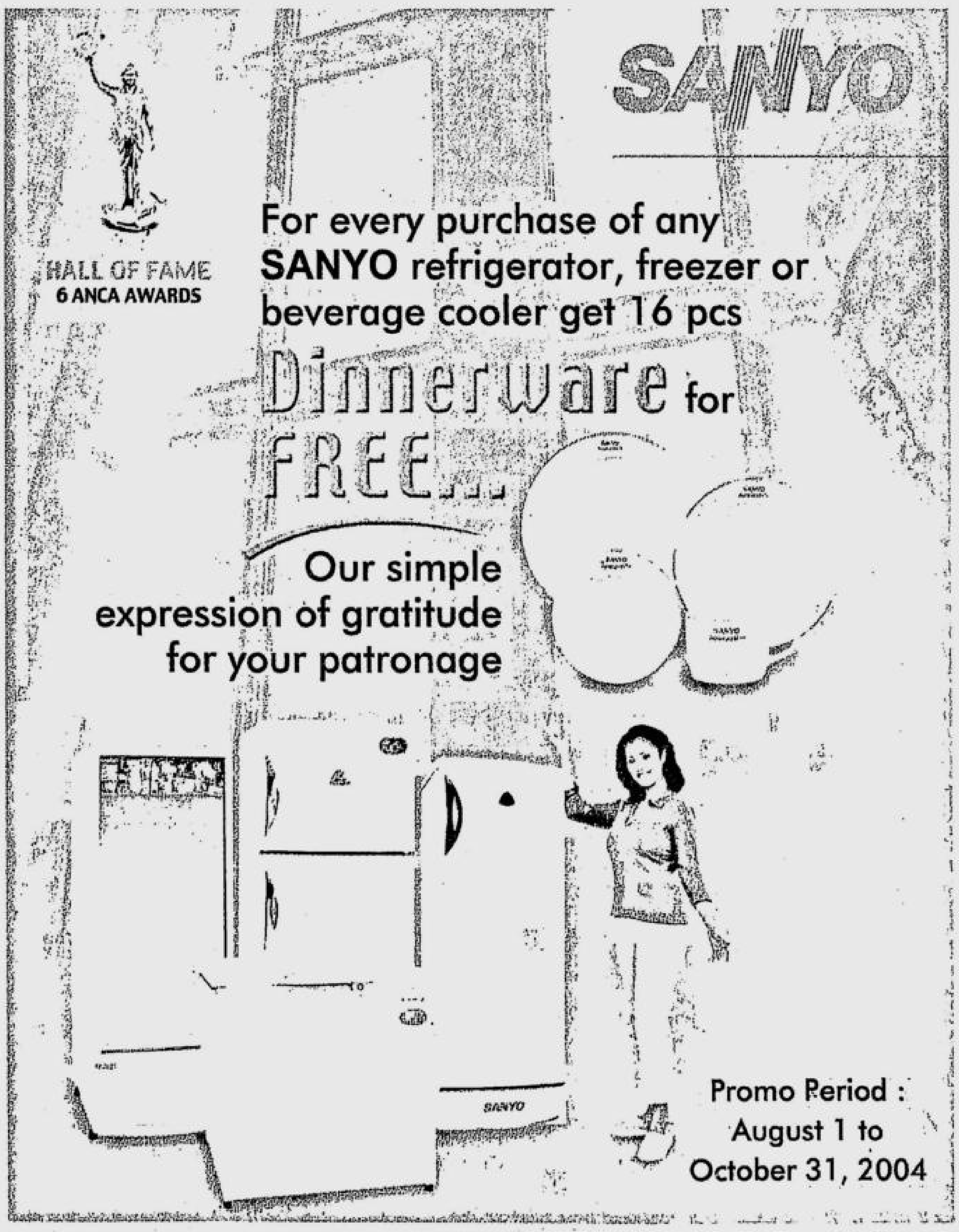
(PDI – August 1, 2, 7-9, 14-16, 21-23 & 28-30, 2004)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Gracia's story stirs controversy

From page A1

Acting Justice Secretary Ma. Merceditas Gutierrez yesterday said she had ordered prosecutors to ask the Pasig City Regional Trial Court on Monday for a copy of the Transcript of Stenographic Notes (TSN) that contains Burnham's testimony.

But Gutierrez stood by the contention of the four DOJ prosecutors present during the hearing, who said that Burnham had made a statement denying military connivance with the Abu Sayyaf.

Senior State Prosecutor Leo Dacera, State Prosecutors Nestor Lazaro, Aristotle Reyes and Peter Medalle had said they heard Burnham clear the military.

"That was their understanding of what happened,'" Gutierrez said.

Lazaro quoted Burnham as saying: "There was no collusion between the ASG and the military."

Colonel barred media

"She answered right away. It was on record," he added.

Referring to statements about the alleged military-Abu Sayyaf collusion which appeared in the book Burnham wrote about her captivity, Dacera told reporters: "These were her general impressions. But her statement in court should put everything—the matter, all doubts—to rest."

Gutierrez, for her part, said she talked with Medalle on Friday and that he told her that Gracia had said that she had "no knowledge" of the alleged collusion.

Gutierrez said the court transcript should clear things up.

The DOJ earlier said Pahimna had decided to allow reporters into the courtroom, but no cameras. However, a police colonel in charge of security allegedly decided to bar mediamen.

Saguisag wants answers

Human rights lawyer Rene Saguisag said the pertinent portions of Burnham's testimony should be made public to resolve the question of what the 45-year-old widow from Wichita, Kansas, really told the court.

WHEN Gracia Burnham left Friday to return to the United States, she left behind a grateful military but as it turns out she may have, in fact, revived a long-running controversy. ROGER MARGALLO

Saguisag quoted excerpts from Burnham's book, In the Presence of my Enemies, including those in which Burnham said that Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya was willing to give an unnamed general "20 percent of the action" but that a messenger had said the general "wanted 50 percent."

"Did Mrs. Burnham really testify with the poignancy of a recantation?" Saguisag wondered.

"The relevant portions of her testimony should be published for all the world to see, particularly in the segment of the media which quite incredibly accepted uncritically the version of the government spokesmen," he said.

Opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. also doubted that Burnham had absolved the military.

The spin masters

"Clearly, this (alleged clearance) is the work of spin masters of the administration catering to the wishes of some top-ranking military officials," the Senate minority leader said in a phone interview.

"They're just using her for their own purpose," Pimentel said, stressing that Burnham's supposed exoneration of the military was meant to shield "the guilty from opprobrium."

Citing the results of the Senate inquiry into the collusion, Pimentel said he was "convinced" some star-ranked military officials had taken part in the negotiations for the release of the Burnhams and had "some access to the ransom money."

Cleared by military court

In its report, the Senate recommended the convening of a court martial against three officials for possible culpability over the escape of Abu Sayyaf bandits cornered at a hospital in Lamitan in June 2, 2001. The three officials were eventually cleared by a military tribunal.

When they fled the hospital in Lamitan, Basilan, the bandits had the Burnhams with them as well as the other hostages they had seized from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan on May 27, 2001.

Abaya stands firm

The military leadership stuck to its guns yesterday and said there had been no collusion with the Abu Sayyaf.

Speaking to reporters, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya said the slain Abu Sabaya, who held the Burnhams in custody, was a consummate propagandist who might have fooled Burnham into thinking the bandit group was colluding with the military.

Abaya said those who believed claims the military had colluded with the bandit group "should give more credit to the professionalism of the armed forces."

Two administration lawmakers, Lakas-CMD Rep. Prospero Pichay of Surigao del Sur and Nationalist People's Coalition Rep. Antonio Cerilles of Zamboanga del Sur, said Burnham's testimony had set the record straight.

"Guided by an oath to tell the truth, she stated there was no collusion between the military and ASG bandits during their captivity. We should respect and accept her testimony," said Pichay, chairman of the House defense committee in the 12th Congress.

Pichay, Cerilles convinced

Pichay maintained Burnham's testimony that there had been no collusion between the AFP and the ASG validated the findings of the House defense committee which probed the Lamitan abduction and concluded that there had been no collusion between the military and the ASG bandits, although ransom had indeed been paid.

The defense committee report, he said, nevertheless made some recommendations for the AFP in order to correct several lapses for a more effective war against the ASG bandits, including lack of logistics, armaments and equipment, and inadequate command leadership in the field.

More 'credible' than book

Cerilles said Burnham's testimony should end reckless accusations intended to tarnish the reputation of the Armed Forces.

Cerilles said Burnham's testimony provided the most credible material against her abductors whom she positively identified during her court appearance. "Her tesrimony which she made under oath carries more weight than her book account on alleged AFP-ASG collusion," Cerilles said.

With a report from TJ Burgonio

Edsa Shrine artist cries sacrilege over mural restoration

From page A1

Yamsuan said the latest restoration work was undertaken from February to June by a team of apprentice artists, conservationists and curators and laboratory technicians from the Conservation Laboratory of the Museum and Archives of the Archdiocese of Manila. The team was headed by Maita Maronilla-Reyes, chief of the Archdiocese's Conservation Laboratory.

The INQUIRER tried to contact Reyes but she was on leave because of a gall bladder condition.

Yamsuan explained that the mural was already badly deteriorated when Msgr. Soc Villegas asked the Archdiocese for help.

"The canvas had been eaten up by termites, and what remained were what was left of the paint. It was just paint [that was] holding it together," she explained.

90% eaten by termites

Yamsuan said the section with the image of President Aquino taking her oath on Feb. 25, 1986, and the one featuring the INQUIRER just below it, were in an advanced state of deterioration.

"About 90 percent of the canvas on that side had been eaten up by termites," Yamsuan said.

Taking the mural down was a "tedious process" that took several nights. She said sections of the mural were first covered with cellulose to keep it intact as it was brought down. Then the sections were taken to the Archdiocese's Archives offices in Intramuros, the pieces occupying the entire fourth floor of the building.

"The restoration was done scientifically and professionally," Yamsuan maintained.

She said the restoration cost almost P400,000, including the cost of transporting the mural to Intramuros and returning it to the shrine. The services of the team of restorers were free, Yamsuan added.

Yamsuan said the shrine could not afford the fee that Miranda had quoted for the restoration job. Miranda had submitted a price quotation that ranged from a low of P100,00 for simple cleaning of the mural to a high of P1.8 million if it had to be painted again.

"So Bishop Soc sought the help of the archdiocese. After all, the mural is already owned by the shrine," Yamsuan said.

'Well-qualified'

Miranda said he should at least have been consulted.

She said Reyes was "well qualified" to do the restoration. Reyes' resume showed she holds a BS in Chemistry from the University of Sto. Tomas, with a master's degree in Museum Studies from the Facultad de Bellas Artes, Universidad Complutense de Madrid in Spain. She has also attended specialized courses on art conservation in the Italian cities of Florence, Venice and Rome and in Tokyo, Japan.

Commission by Sin

Miranda said he was commissioned to do the mural by retired Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin sometime after the first People Power Revolution of February 1986, for the Edsa Shrine then being planned. Done mostly in oil pastel, the mural was designed to blend with the ceiling, creating a restful, ethereal effect.

Designed by architect Bobby Mañosa, the shrine, a regular place of worship for Manila Catholics, has become a landmark for protest rallies. It was where ex-President Estrada was ousted and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo installed as President.

Yamsuan said this was totally unforeseen.

"It was only intended as a shrine, a half-way rest for workers and commuters, not like a parish church," she said.

Air-conditioning units had to be installed to ease the heat and keep out the noise of the traffic of people and vehicles at the very busy intersection of Ortigas Avenue and Edsa. Makeshift ducts were attached to the walls, including a portion directly behind the mural, Yamsuan said.

For still unexplained reasons, Yamsuan said water from the rooftop often ended up inside the shrine. "That's a problem that has been plaguing the shrine ever since," she said.

Miranda said the moisture attracted the termites, which formed a colony at the back of the mural. He said he discovered this when he did the first restoration in 1998. He said water seepage and dirt from the rooftop also contributed to the proliferation of the termites.

Map formations

The INQUIRER also checked the rooftop and found a boxed garden just above that side of the shrine where the mural was located.

Miranda said that Villegas had asked for his professional opinion on the the deteriorating state of the mural. He said he checked the mural and found some "map formations" in the areas that had been eaten by termites.

"It required major renovation, such as double-walling, water-proofing, using metal for the ceiling, and the use of hardiflex instead of plywood," Miranda said.

Miranda said he submitted his observations and estimate of the cost of restoration to Villegas and was waiting for his answer.

"Then friends started asking me if I was restoring the mural because it was no longer at the shrine. What can I tell them?" Miranda said.

Miranda, who has been given the title of "Edsa Revolution artist," because of the series of paintings that he produced on the first people power revolution, insisted there is a proper way of restoring a work of art.

Just painted over

He believes the work was just painted over with white. "You are not supposed to do that," he said.

He said that in 1998, he restored the mural by retracing a damaged portion on tracing paper. Then the damaged portion was sliced out and replaced with a new piece of canvas. Using the tracing, Miranda said he proceeded to repaint that portion exactly like the image that was removed. "So you cannot see the difference," he said.

And nothing went to waste because the portion that was removed was also restored, framed and even given to those who sponsored the restoration.

"It became a part of a collection, with the note that it was a portion of the Edsa Shrine People Power mural," he said.

"In 1998, 40 percent of the mural was damaged by termites, but when we restored it, it seemed like nothing had changed," the artist said.

Asks for written report

If the intention was to save money, "I'm easy to talk to, it's for the Church after all," he said. He pointed out that he was doing four murals for the Antipolo church for a minimal fee.

Miranda wants the restorers to give him a written report of how the job was done.

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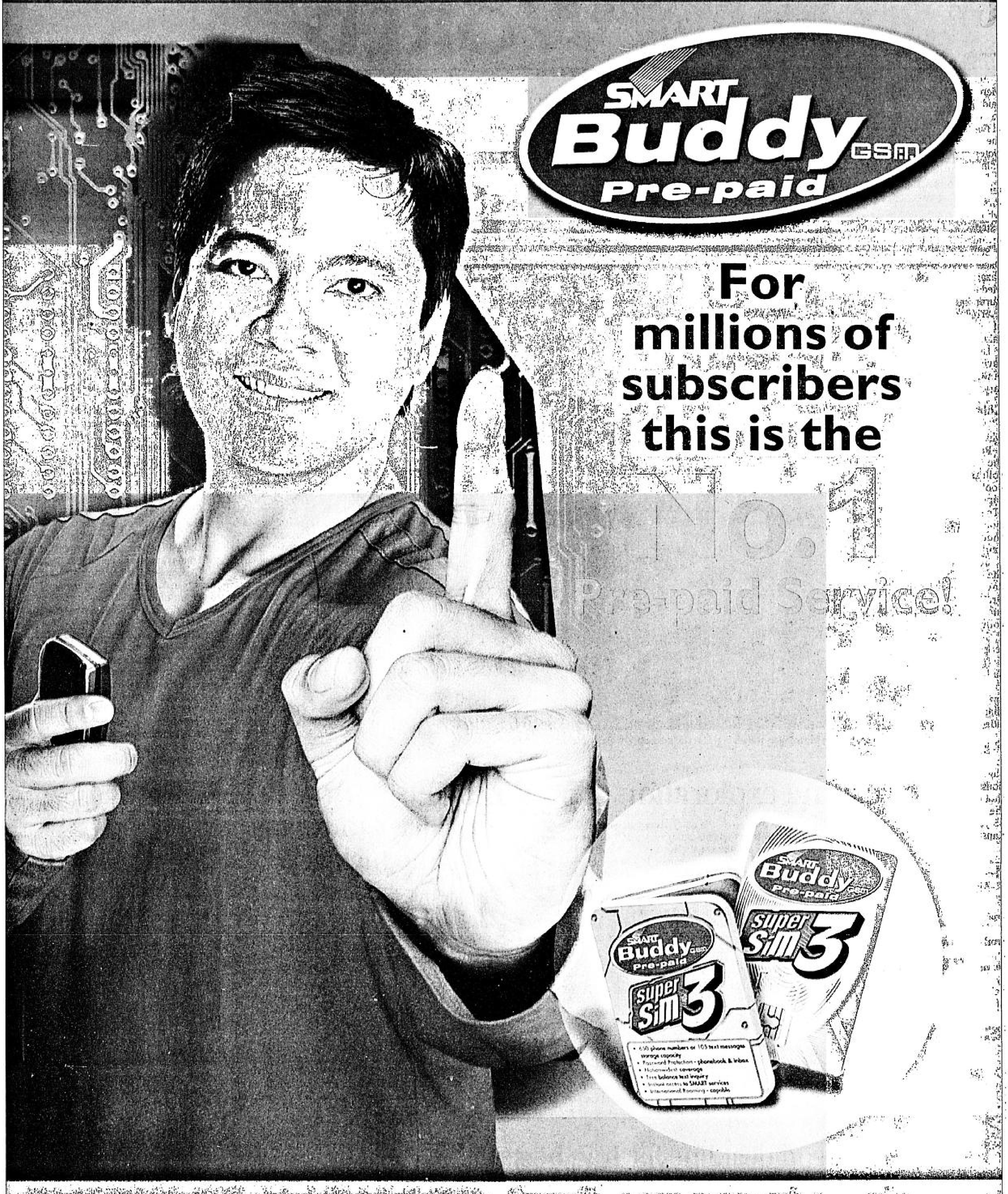

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

US, Israel posts in Uzbekistan bombed

TASHKENT—Suicide bombers hit the US and Israeli embassies and Uzbekistan's prosecutor general's office in simultaneous attacks Friday in Tashkent, killing themselves and at least two other people.

"There are body parts everywhere," said a witness who lives outside the US Embassy, adding that there appeared to be heavy casualties.

The attacks are the latest in a series in the volatile Central Asian state, which is a key US ally in the region.

The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which is considered a terrorist organization by the United States and has staged previous deadly attacks in the republic, claimed responsibility for the attacks, according to an Islamist Internet site.

"A group of young Muslims from the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan carried out martyrdom operations today against the embassies of America and Israel and the office of the prosecutor general, which started a few days ago to try several brethren from the group," the statement said.

State television said two people were killed and nine others injured, with two of them hospitalized in serious condition.

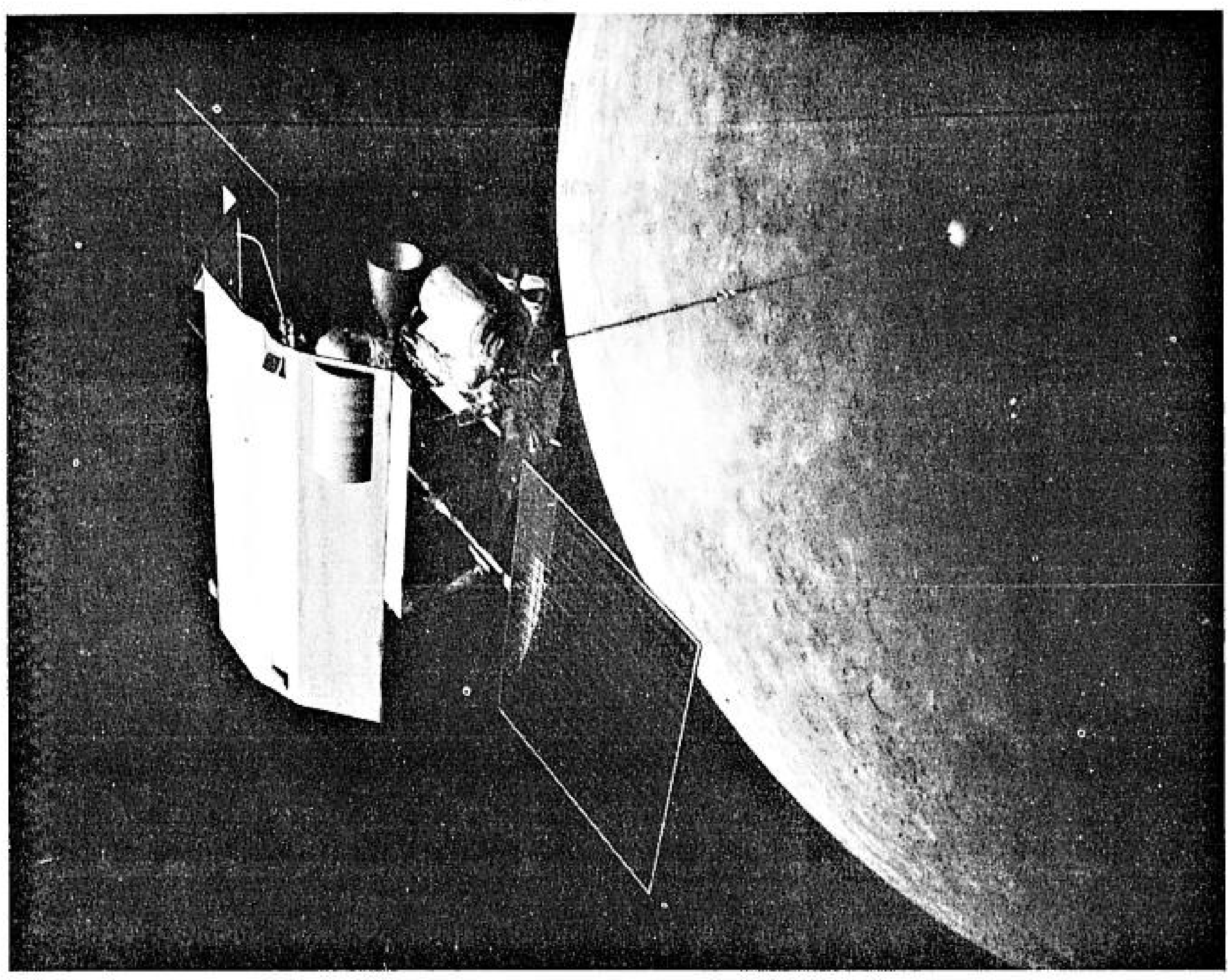
Interfax quoted an identified source as saying that eight people had been killed outside the US compound, four policemen guarding the building and four civilians. The report could not be confirmed.

Separately, a nurse said on condition of anonymity that at least five bodies had been brought to her hospital.

"An explosion caused either by a bomb or a suicide bomber at the entrance to the embassy killed two local employees of the embassy," Israel's ambassador to Uzbekistan, Zwi Cohen, told Israeli public radio.

"There were four of us Israeli diplomats in the embassy at the time of the blast and we are all safe and sound.

"All Israelis who are in Tashkent are also safe and sound—we know exactly where they are and have contacted them to tell them to stay at home until further instructions," he added. *AFP*



NASA plans to launch a new spacecraft Messenger, shown in this artist's drawing orbiting Mercury, on a mission to the planet closest to the sun on Aug. 2. REUTERS

Nasa to resume exploration of Mercury

WASHINGTON—Thirty years after the last US mission to Mercury, Nasa on Monday plans to launch a new spacecraft, baptized Messenger, to the mysterious planet closest to the sun.

The Delta II rocket carrying Messenger is scheduled to take off at 2:16 a.m. (2:16 p.m. in Manila) Monday from Cape Canaveral in Florida for a journey of several years, the US space agency said.

Messenger will fly over Mercury three times in 2008 and 2009 before entering the planet's orbit in March 2011. It will travel a total of 7.9 billion km, even though Mercury is 91 million km from Earth.

"This is an ambitious discovery mission. Understanding Mercury, how it formed and (how) it evolved is essential to-the understanding of other terrestrial planets, Venus, Earth and Mars," said Orlando Figueroa, director of solar system exploration at Nasa.

Thirty years ago, the Mariner 10 spacecraft flew over Mercury three times but was able to photograph just 45 percent of the planet's surface and left many questions unanswered. It did not enable scientists to learn how its surface formed.

"Now, 30 years later, advances in technology, mission design and materials have enabled us to go back with a much more capable mission, which can help us to understand" the solar neighbor, Figueroa said.

For example, Messenger has been designed to withstand extreme temperatures on Mercury thanks to a ceramic-material sunshade.

Scientists hope that the spacecraft will provide the first images of the entire planet and collect detailed information on its geological history, the nature of its atmosphere and its magnetosphere.

Messenger, which weighs 1.2 tons, will also measure the structure and state of Mercury's core and the origin of its magnetic field.

Since Mariner 10, scientists have known that Mercury has a density similar to that of Earth, though it is scarcely larger than the moon. It has the thinnest atmosphere of any of the terrestrial, or rocky, planets in the solar system—Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars.

Its temperature variations are so extreme that despite its proximity to the sun it might have ice in permanently shadowed craters at its poles, where the temperature is lower than minus 108 degrees C.

"One of the most bizarre questions is whether the planet closest to the sun might really have ice at the poles," said Sean Solomon of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, principal investigator for the mission.

"The question that seems most fundamental to me is how Mercury got put together, what were the processes that contributed to the inner planets turning out so differently," Solomon said. *AFP*

Kidnappers extend deadline for Iraq hostages

BAGHDAD—Kidnappers holding seven foreign truck drivers hostage in Iraq on Friday extended by 24 hours a deadline to start executing them.

The militants are holding three Indian drivers, along with three Kenyans and an Egyptian, and extended the deadline until 7 p.m. Saturday.

New Delhi said it was sending a senior Indian diplomat to Baghdad to try to broker the release of its nationals.

As the number of foreigners believed abducted across the country rose to at least 25, the Islamic militants said: "At the request of the mediator, we have decided to give a last chance to the Kuwaiti company and the relevant countries to save their employees and their nationals," said a statement obtained by AFP.

"Saturday at 7 p.m. (11 p.m. in Manila) will be the last delay to respond to our demands."

The authenticity of the communique, issued in the name of the "Islamic Secret Army—Holders of the Black Banners" could not be independently verified.

The militants have demanded that the men's Kuwaiti employer quit Iraq.

India had said it was working "round the clock" to obtain the release of its three citizens after the kidnappers issued their gruesome threat and a video showing a cocked rifle being held to the head of one of their captives.

An unnamed diplomat, "familiar with the region and the language," was expected to leave New Delhi on Saturday for Baghdad, where he will work to secure the Indians release, said an official here.

India has also decided to ban Indian citizens traveling to Iraq through Kuwait and Jordan, following repeated warnings from the foreign ministry against venturing to the strife-torn country.

"It has been decided that Indian nationals will not travel to Iraq through the borders of Kuwait and Jordan," in light of the "prevailing security situation in Iraq," said an official statement.

As relatives made a last-ditch appeal for mercy, Iraqi go-between, Sheikh Hisham al-Dulaimi, said he was optimistic of a happy outcome.

The Kuwaiti company has also sent a representative to Baghdad, Dulaimi said, but there was no indication that the haulage firm was ready to cease its operations in Iraq. *AFP*

UN Council gives Sudan stern warning over Darfur atrocities

UNITED NATIONS—The UN Security Council on Friday gave Sudan a stern warning to rein in militia committing atrocities in the Darfur region within 30 days or face international action.

Thirteen members of the 15-nation council backed a resolution aimed at stepping up pressure over what the UN has called the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The 53-member African Union (AU) meanwhile appeared set to dispatch a protection force to Darfur next week.

China and Pakistan abstained from Friday's vote. China, one of the five permanent Security Council members, could have killed the measure by imposing its veto, but did not.

The Sudanese government in Khartoum rejected the resolution as "inappropriate."

Government spokesperson Al-Zahawe Ibrahim Malik said it did not comply with an agreement concluded by Khartoum and the UN on July 3, in which the government pledged to take immediate steps to disarm the militias.

Sudan's UN ambassador, Elfatih Mohamed Erwa, expressed "sorrow and sadness at the hasty adoption of this resolution, at a time when our government is racing against time."

The resolution was drawn by the United States, and co-sponsored by Britain, France, Spain, Germany and Romania.

The sponsors dropped the word "sanctions" from the text in a bid to win support after seven council members objected to the word. But the sponsors made clear that even if the word did not appear in the text, authorization of sanctions was implicit.

The resolution expressed the Security Council's intention "to consider further actions—including measures as provided for in Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations—on the government of Sudan, in the event of noncompliance."

Article 41 is the charter provision usually used to impose sanctions.

"The government of Sudan has done the unthinkable... fostered an armed attack on its own civilian population," said John Danforth, the US ambassador to the United Nations.

"The resolution, in stern and unambiguous terms, puts the government of Sudan on notice that it must fulfill the commitments it made on July 3," said Danforth. "Sudan must know that serious measures—international sanctions—are looming if the government refuses to do so."

In Washington, US state department spokesperson Adam Ereli said the resolution "sends an unmistakable message of the resolve of the international community in the face of a humanitarian disaster that is occurring in Sudan, responsibility for which lies squarely at the feet of the government of Sudan."

The Canadian government said the Security Council had sent a clear signal that it was "ready to act to end the crisis." *AFP*

Bush, Kerry kick campaigns into high gear

WASHINGTON—US President George W. Bush and his Democratic rival, Sen. John Kerry, on Friday raced to key states up for grabs in the November election as the fight for the White House kicked into high gear.

After a week spent out of sight on his Texas ranch, Bush returned to his bid for a second four-year term with gusto, launching a two-day trip through four states with a warning that Kerry has "the wrong medicine" for the country.

"I am asking for four more years to make our country safer, to make the economy stronger, to make our future better and brighter for every single citizen," Bush told a cheering crowd in Springfield, Missouri.

Kerry, a day after triumphantly accepting his party's nomination, opened a two-week, 21-state campaign blitz with a relentless assault on the president's credibility over the war in Iraq and his handling of the US economy.

"We're going to change that around. Help is on the way for the average person in this country," he said, running mate John Edwards at his side. "We're going to restore trust and credibility to the White House."

National opinion polls have shown Kerry running neck and neck with Bush, who has seen his approval ratings slide as more and more Americans question whether the invasion of Iraq was worth the cost in lives.

But the convention gave some immediate help to the senator, who led Bush 48-43 in a Zogby America poll released on Friday.

Kerry was tired but excited after the four-day Democratic convention, which targeted swing voters with appeals aimed at the middle-class and stoked party faithful with a hearty dose of attacks on Bush's leadership.

"I'm longing to have my head hit a pillow, ladies and gentlemen," Kerry said as he and Edwards opened a 15-day "Believe in America" tour, covering 5,600 km and 21 states between them.

KERRY with running mate Edwards at a campaign rally in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, July 30. REUTERS

The cross-country travels will give Kerry, 60, a chance to talk about domestic issues, after he lambasted Bush on Thursday night over the loss of US jobs, rising health-care costs and lagging educational opportunities.

"America can do better," Kerry told the convention in a 45-minute speech, test-driving his main slogan for the rest of the campaign: "Help is on the way."

Bush, who aides said did not watch the address, shrugged off the Democrats' "clever speeches," declaring he had made progress in battling terror and helping the US economy while taking a slap at what he termed his rival's meager record.

"After 19 years in the United States Senate, my opponent has had thousands of votes, but very few signature achievements," he said. "My opponent has good intentions, but intentions do not always translate to results."

Echoing a common Republican charge against Kerry, Bush said he was better suited to keep the United States safe from attacks like the terrorist strikes of Sept. 11, 2001, which transformed his presidency. *AFP*

Last New York Mafia don convicted for murders, faces life in prison

MASSINO AP

NEW YORK—Bonanno family crime boss Joseph Massino was convicted Friday of orchestrating a quarter century's worth of crimes including murder, racketeering, arson and extortion, becoming the last of New York's Mafia dons to lose his freedom.

Jurors took less than four days to weigh two months of evidence, including testimony from a parade of turncoat mobsters. They delivered what prosecutors called a devastating blow to organized crime.

Massino posed as a humble Queens restaurateur but prosecutors said he was a "one-man army" who ruthlessly ordered rivals slain to consolidate his power over a syndicate that earned millions of dollars from loansharking and gambling and other illicit operations.

Massino had been dubbed "The Last Don" for his ability to rebuild the family and avoid jail while the heads of New York's other four Mafia families were all behind bars.

"Massino was convicted for some of the most notorious murders in mob history," US Attorney Roslynn Mauskopf said after the verdict. "Soon he will be joining the bosses of those other families where they all belong."

He was convicted in the murders of seven mobsters, including two men who introduced FBI agent "Donnie Brasco" to the family, leading to more than 120 convictions.

Witnesses for the first time described the killing of Dominick "Sonny Black" Napolitano, who introduced mob wannabe Brasco to the Bonannos. Napolitano was quickly dispatched on Massino's orders, with his hands chopped off to discourage other mobsters from letting turncoats shake hands with made men. The Brasco saga later became the subject of a movie starring Johnny Depp and Al Pacino.

Defense attorney David Breitbart claimed the turncoat mobsters lied under oath to win favorable treatment from prosecutors, and argued that Massino was not responsible for the murders because he was not the Bonanno boss when the killings were done. Prosecutors said he orchestrated the murders, and his status as boss was irrelevant.

Massino, 61, a former 180-kilo known as "Big Joey," stood impassively as the jury forewoman pronounced him guilty on 11 counts that included 16 acts of racketeering. His daughter, Adeline, sitting in the courtroom, whispered, "Oh, God" and put her head in her hands.

After the verdict, lawyers discussed a hearing on the forfeiture of more than $10 million, including two Queens restaurants and cash from gambling, extortion and Christmas tributes. The mob boss turned to his wife, Josephine, and offered a brief shrug. *AP*

15 killed, 120 injured in spectacular explosion of Belgium gas line

ATH, Belgium—Belgian government offices were flying their flags at half-mast Saturday as the country mourned a day after a spectacular explosion of a gas line killed at least 15 people and injured 120.

Authorities said there were another three people missing, including one police officer at the site where the explosion occurred early Friday morning, in an industrial area just outside the village of Ghislenghien, about 30 km southeast of Brussels.

Some 50 people remained in serious condition, officials said. Many of the injured suffered severe burns and were being treated at special burn units in Belgium and in the nearby city of Lille, France and in Paris.

Officials said four burn victims were on life support in a coma at a military hospital in Neder-Over-Heembeek, a suburb of Brussels. Another two were fighting for their lives at an Antwerp hospital.

Meanwhile medical experts continued their work on identifying the dead at a morgue set up in a local school in Ath.

King Albert II was expected to visit the blast site later Saturday, cutting short his vacation in Spain, and meet injured victims at the hospital in Ath. He was also expected to meet with families of the victims, five of whom were volunteer firefighters from the nearby town of Ath, nine km from the blast site.

Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt and several of his ministers visited the site late Friday.

"Our country is in mourning," Verhofstadt said. "The accident constitutes for our country a national catastrophe, and the toll is a heavy one."

The firefighters were the first on the scene answering a report of a gas leak before the explosion. Construction workers alerted firefighters that they had damaged the underground gas line.

The thunderous blast was heard kilometers away and sent a towering wall of orange flame soaring into the sky in a series of mushrooming balls of fire.

The blast incinerated a swath of large buildings in the industrial park and hurled bodies more than 100 meters into nearby wheat fields.

The devastation resembled a war zone, with everything within a half-kilometer radius of the explosion melted or badly burned. *AP*

Pakistan PM-designate survives car bomb attack

AZIZ

ISLAMABAD—Pakistan began investigating Saturday a suicide car bomb attack on prime minister-designate Shaukat Aziz, which he survived but killed his driver and six others, including the attacker.

"We have launched thorough investigations into the attack on Shaukat Aziz," a senior interior ministry official said of the late Friday bombing, from which Aziz, 55, escaped unhurt.

"It was an act of terrorism meant to create widespread disturbances and instability," he said.

Aziz, the finance minister, is a close ally of President Pervez Musharraf, who was the target of two assassination attempts last December that he blamed on the al-Qaida terror network and local militants.

The ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) party believed there was a link between the attack on Aziz and those on Musharraf.

"These are same people who tried to kill President Pervez Musharraf last year, now they have attacked Aziz," PML-Q Sen. Mushahid Hussain said.

Blaming Islamic extremists for the attack, he said, "They are trying to destabilize Pakistan."

Aziz had just finished addressing an election campaign rally in Attock, some 45 km west of Islamabad, when an explosives-filled car ploughed through a security cordon into his sedan at around 7:15 p.m. Friday, police said.

The ensuing blast killed the driver of the car and the attacker and five other people who have not been identified but were believed to be supporters who had gathered around Aziz to see him off.

Seven policemen and 23 other people were injured, police said.

Attock mayor Tahir Sadiq was in the car with Aziz. "We had just started moving when suddenly a car appeared from driver side and exploded," Sadiq said, saying it was a miracle that he and Aziz were not injured.

The ruling party in June chose Aziz, the finance minister for the past four years after a distinguished career in global banking, to take over from Zafarullah Jamali, who had resigned.

Jamali had held the post since November 2002 after the first elections to follow Musharraf's October 1999 army coup, and had apparently been under pressure to quit from Musharraf who was said to be unhappy with his 18-month performance.

But Aziz, a senator, must first win election to the lower house of parliament to be eligible as prime minister.

He is campaigning in two by-elections to be held Aug. 18 in Attock and the southern Sindh province seat of Tharparkar.

He had planned to travel to Tarparkar on Saturday but canceled the trip after Friday's attack, Sindh province government advisor Salahuddin Haider said. *AFP*

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DATE	SUBJECT	CREDIT HOURS*	LECTURERS
14 August (AM)	Ethical Aspects of Government Procurement (Legal Ethics)	Three (3) (8:30-12:00)	Prof. Bartolome Fernandez
(PM)	Update in Civil Procedure	Three (3) (1:30-5:00)	Justice Hilarion L. Aquino
21 August (AM)	Update in Criminal Law	Three (3) (8:30-12:00)	Justice Diosdado M. Peralta
(PM)	Pre Trial and Trial Skills	Four (4) (1:00-5:15)	Omb. Jesus F. Guerrero
28 August (AM)	Anti-Money Laundering Act (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (8:30-12:00)	Atty. Celia E. Sandejas
(PM)	a) International Arbitration b) Overview of ADR	Three (3) (1:00-4:00) Two (2) (4:15-6:15)	Dean Custodio O. Parlade Prof. Alfredo F. Tadiar
04 September (AM)	Update in Legal Ethics	Three (3) (8:30-12:00)	Justice Jose L. Sabio, Jr.
(PM)	a) International Law b) Problem Areas in Evidence	Two (2) 1:00-3:00) Three (3) (3:15-6:15)	Prof. Harry L. Roque Justice Alfredo L. Benipayo
11 September (AM)	Recent Developments in Family Law (MCLE Prescribed)	Three (3) (8:30-12:00)	Prof. Danilo L. Concepcion
(PM)	Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Four (4) (1:00-5:15)	Justice Hugo E. Gutierrez

BRIDES, NOT WRAITHS
Veiled Muslim brides wait for the start of their mass wedding in Amman, July 30. Some 150 Muslim couples tied the knot on Friday in the 11th group wedding staged by Al-Afaf Islamic charitable committee designed to overcome financial hardship by sharing the cost of their marriages. REUTERS

NZ to sex workers: Watch out for overuse syndrome

AUCKLAND—The New Zealand government, having taken the step of legalizing prostitution, has now issued a guide for sex workers.

The 100-page Occupational Safety and Health guide to safe sex practices has been launched on a government website with the caution: "Warning: this document contains sexually explicit material."

The recommendations—which the New Zealand Herald said Saturday will also be distributed to brothels' and sex workers—include detailed advice on safe sex practices such as the storage and handling of sex toys and disinfecting equipment.

Employers are asked to ensure condoms in a variety of shapes and sizes are always available, and to provide beds that support the back for a variety of services to be performed without strain or discomfort.

Sex workers are cautioned to watch out for occupational overuse syndrome, often caused by rapid repetitive tasks or forceful movements, and to carry a small torch in case they need to check clients for sexually transmitted diseases.

Comprehensive training of staff in the safe use of all equipment, particularly for fantasy work, is also recommended.

Since last year's prostitution reform legislation, the New Zealand government has also issued a "how to" guide for anyone wishing to set up a brothel. *AFP*

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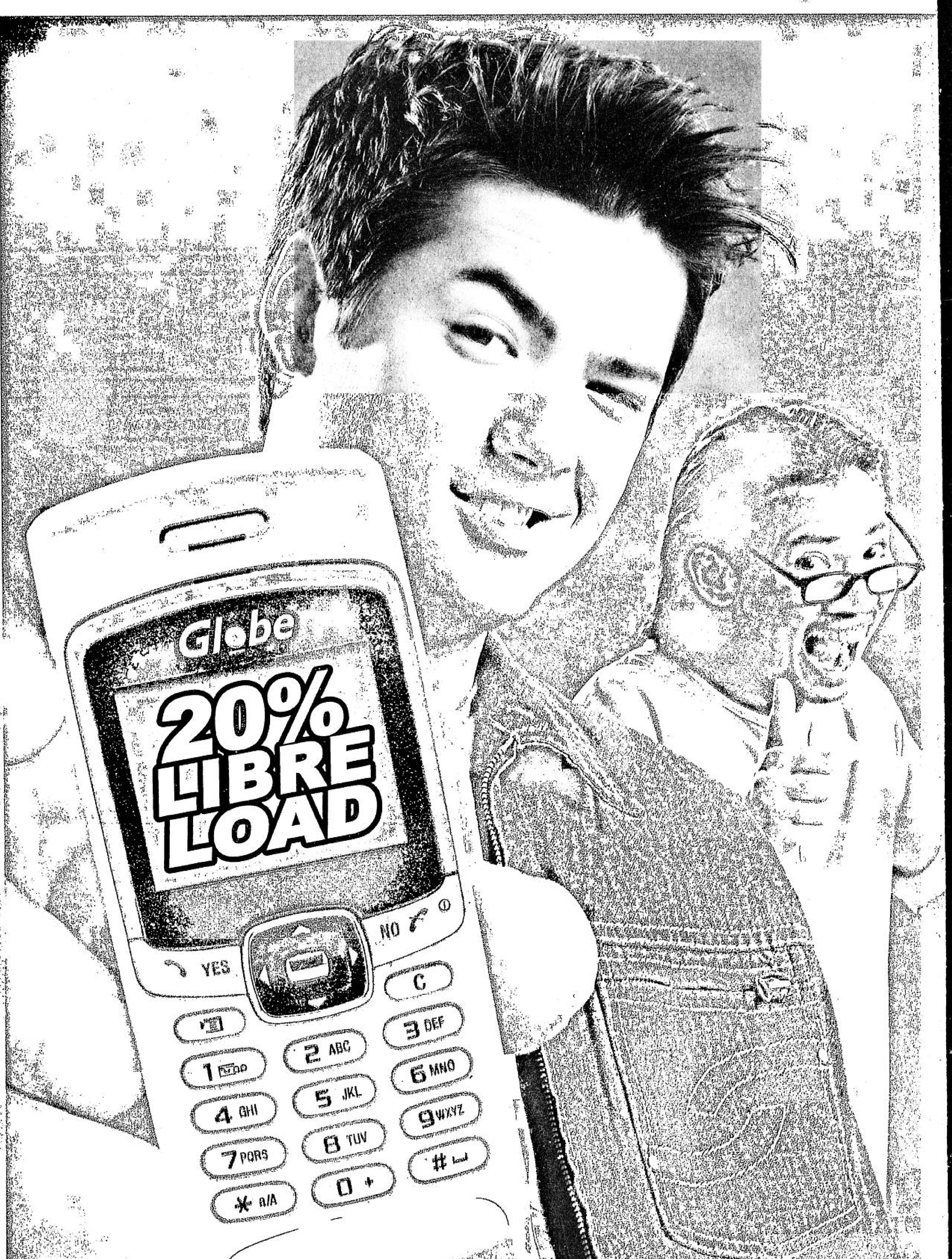
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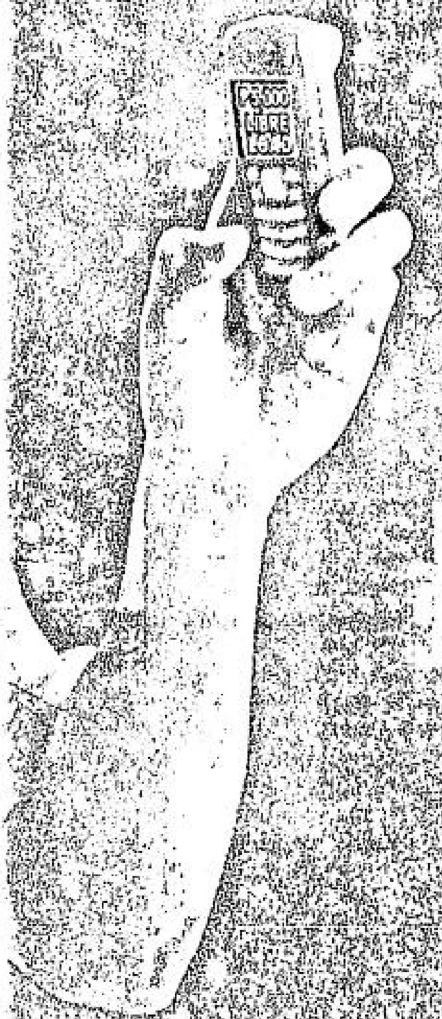

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P41-P45	P9
P46-P50	P10
P51-P55	P11

Load Range	Libre Load
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P61-P65	P13
P66-P70	P14
P71-P75	P15
P76-P80	P16
P81-P85	P17
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P96-P100	P20
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OPINION

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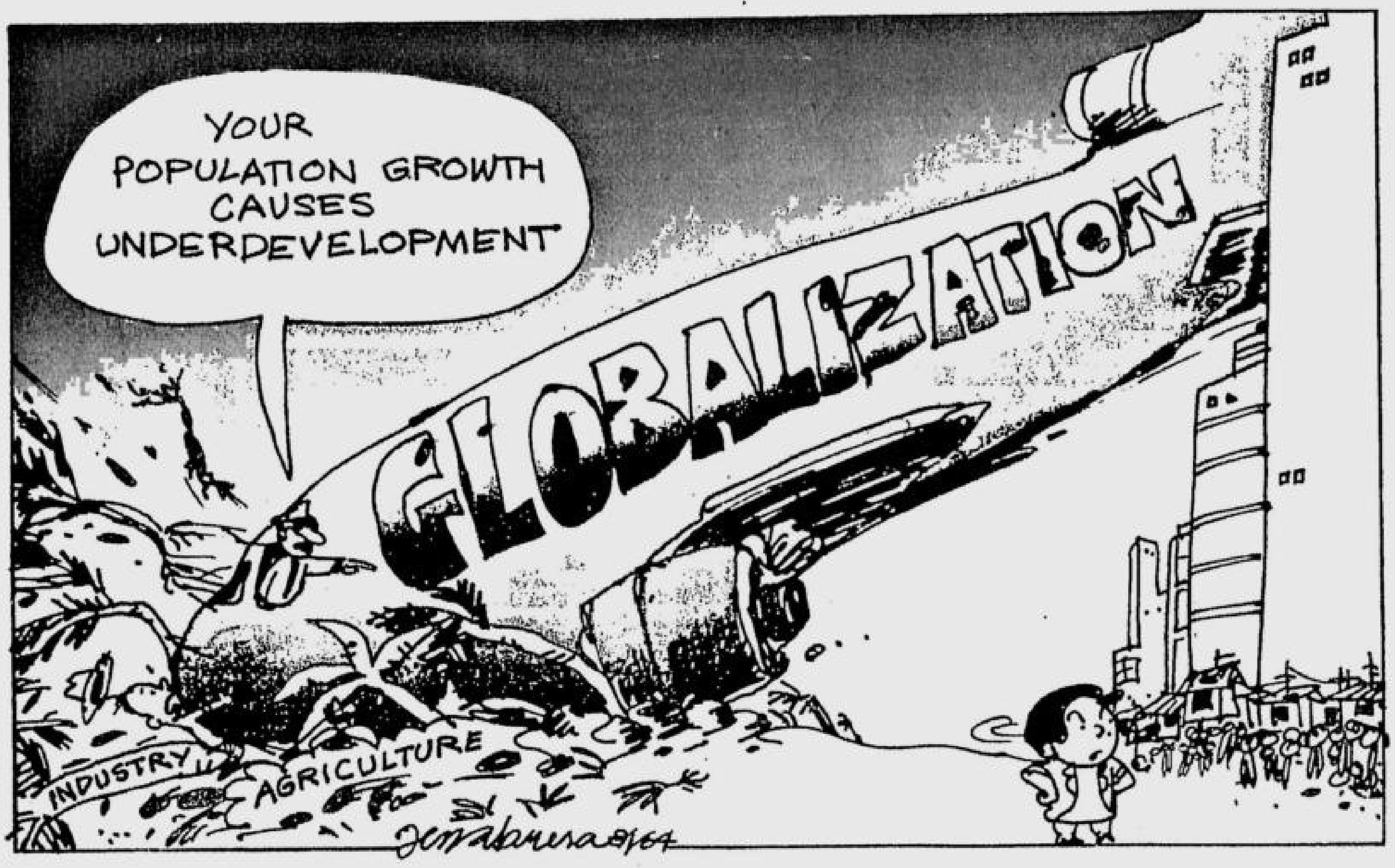
YOUR POPULATION GROWTH CAUSES UNDERDEVELOPMENT
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Conscience

EDITORIAL

THE TWO-CHILD policy proposed by Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman is fraught with danger. In particular, it opens up the possibilities of institutionalizing discrimination in the name of economic progress. However, as a starting point for much-needed discussions on population control, his proposal is a welcome development.

The Lagman proposals have sparked contending proposals from other politicians as well as comments from the private and religious sectors. The urgency of a population control program is clear. What should concern us today is defining the parameters within which further discussions should take place.

A paramount parameter is the sacredness of life, as enshrined in the constitutional prohibition against abortion. It is precisely this constitutional injunction to preserve the life of the unborn that should provide the impetus for the other defining parameter in any discussion on population control: information.

Fear and ignorance drive women, in many cases, to resorting to abortions to end unwanted pregnancies. Our country should desire fewer babies, but most of all, no unwanted babies. As a country and society that respects religious faith, we must all agree to respect the strictures of many faiths, while ensuring that no faith unduly imposes its teachings on others.

Referring to the Constitution, which leaves us free to belong, or not belong, to any faith, we are all bound to protect the life of the unborn fetus. However, on things that may prevent conception in the first place, people of varying faiths may disagree. Protestants and non-Catholics in many instances have no objection to various means of preventing conception, while both Catholics and non-Catholics more often than not, at least in the Filipino context, see eye to eye when it comes to protecting a child once conceived. Therefore, if we are to give full expression to the right to religion and the practice of religion, and the equality given to those who have, and do not have, faith, then we must all agree on the primacy of conscience.

Each citizen is armed with a conscience, and it is not within the ambit of the state—and even religion—to interfere with the exercise of that conscience. The state may uphold the law, religions may uphold their teachings, but church and state must bow to the individual conscience of our citizens. Catholic doctrine recognizes that each member of the faithful must answer the call of one's conscience. We ask that this principle be upheld, in the provision of information to the public on population control.

If most, if not all, can agree that we do not want unwanted babies, and that furthermore, it would be better to have fewer babies, or at least, to only have babies who have a greater chance to enjoy their full human rights by having access to more resources, our people need more information.

They need information on the consequences of pregnancy—and of course, its causes. They need information on the true cost of child rearing. They need information on family planning, birth spacing, nutrition and health. If we can all agree that we want no abortions, we must enable citizens to know how abortions can be prevented, and give options to citizens that are compatible with their individual conscience.

To be stuck in a contentious groove, as the debate on family planning has been stuck for decades, is to fail to see the forest for the trees. It is to condemn more babies to being aborted. It is to continue the cycle of ignorance and desperation that leads to unwanted pregnancies, and the murder of the unborn. To fail to widen the options and information open to couples and women, and even men, when it comes to knowing their bodies and reproductive health, is to condemn our country to growing faster than it can feed, clothe, house and educate the citizens of our country.

A cycle of fear and distrust must be broken, if we are to move forward. Our churches must have greater faith in their flocks, our politicians must have greater faith in the ability of the public to make discriminating choices. Our people deserve more information and more access to reproductive health programs compatible with their beliefs. Church and state have been passing the buck, and pointing fingers at each other. Meanwhile, millions are born to poverty, and thousands are murdered before they even see the light of day.

This is too much to have on the conscience of our leaders and our preachers.

English in the Philippines

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

WHEN English was the medium of instruction in our schools, practically every Filipino, including those in the barrios, understood and spoke the language. Some of them used what was then called carabao English, but they were able to convey their meaning even to foreigners. The point was that they were understood, albeit with some difficulty, even with their broken grammar and pronunciation.

It is different now with the majority of our people unable to speak English at all. The emphasis is now on the national language and the *balarila* on the *wikang pambansa*. English has become a really foreign language where it used to be the *lingua franca* of the Filipinos, more widespread than the various native dialects.

The public schools have seen to the quiet murder of the English language in the Philippines. Making the national language the medium of instruction did not mean the total displacement of English in the curriculum. But that is what has happened in the public schools, probably for lack of funding for this additional subject. It is only in the private schools where English is retained as a required course, not just an elective.

Yet, strangely enough, most of our official notices, including our laws, are still in English. Our statutes are in English, as so are the decisions of our courts, not excluding the Supreme Court. Even the Constitution is published mostly in English rather than in Tagalog or Ilocano or Pampango. The bar and board examinations are in English. Even our English street signs are hardly understandable to the Visayan jeepney drivers.

In prescribing the national language as the medium of instruction in our schools, the authorities did not intend to abolish English in the curriculum. Yet that is what has happened.

The feeling has grown that the use of a foreign language is anti-nationalistic and should therefore be avoided. The UP Collegian is now in the national language where it used to be the most effective English vehicle of artistic and political expression in the campus.

Some years ago I introduced Adrian Cristobal at convocation where he was to speak about Andres Bonifacio. The previous speakers had spoken in the national language but I spoke in English simply because I was not fluent in formal Tagalog and did not know how to describe him in the dialect as "irreverent." (Do you?) Someone in the audience flatly denounced me (unknowingly within hearing distance of my wife) as unpatriotic.

My father was a distinguished writer and public speaker in Tagalog, but I did not inherit his mastery of the language as my two brothers did. On one occasion when all three of us spoke about him in a program organized by the Surian ng Wikang Pambansa, a woman seated beside my wife told her that I was the best speaker among the sons. My admirer was a Cebuana and did not speak much Tagalog herself.

As students during the American regime, we were taught the essentials and even the nuances of English. We were required to read many English and American classics that had not been translated to any of the native dialects. We read the Bible in English and prayed Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostles' Creed. We sang even the present "Lupang Hinirang" as "Land of the Morning" before, but that did not make us love our country less. Rizal wrote the "Noli" and the "Fili" in Spanish because he was more comfortable with the language than with his native tongue. He did write his letter to the women of Malolos in Tagalog but needed the editorial assistance of Marcelo del Pilar. Ninoy Aquino was from Tarlac but most of his polemics were in English although, like Rizal, he did not lessen in patriotism because he used a foreign language.

At that, English is not really that foreign to us, for we used it as our own for more than half a century during the American regime and beyond. Knowledge of English distinguished us from many other countries and gave us convenient advantage in business, political and social circles. We did not need English subtitles, as others did, in Hollywood and British movies. Filipino students in American and English universities fared better in arts and letters than their other Asian classmates.

I do not object to the use of the national language as the medium of instruction in certain subjects as the more effective instrument in the teaching of the students. But it should not prohibit the teaching of English as a practical and convenient requirement in the modern world. English has become the universal language and has replaced French, which even the English gentry before found it necessary to learn. Even the proud French are now learning English.

As so many other peoples throughout the world. The Japanese and the Chinese, for all their nationalistic temperaments, are learning the language of the Americans and the Britishers not because they are yielding their culture to the West but because they have to live with their English-speaking neighbors. It is a matter of convenience, not patriotism.

Let us retain the national language as the medium of instruction in our public schools. But let us not remove English from our curricula for that is as important to us as algebra and geography, if not more so. You may not know the major export of Tanganyika or Einstein's theory of relativity without much loss to your IQ. But you can't understand the UN Charter or the "Lord of the Rings" unless you know English.

Holding hands

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

IN ONE of my pilgrimages, we had an elderly couple who were holding each other's hands. It was such an inspiring sight to see them holding on to each other. I pointed this out to the husband, telling him how edified I was to see them so sweet after all these years. The old man looked at me, and with a naughty smile said, "No big deal father. You see, if I let go of her hand, she'll fall!"

* * *

The Gospel today (Lk. 12, 13-21) speaks about letting go of our possessions. There are some people who cannot let go of what they have. Their possessions have become their crutches. Are you one of those people who have become so dependent on your worldly possessions, so much so that you have forgotten your God? Have you become a greedy person because of worldly possessions? Jesus reminds us today that we will carry nothing with us when we leave this world, and that can happen anytime, when we least expect it, sooner than soon.

* * *

A line in the Jewish Talmud says, "Man is born with his hands clenched; He dies with them wide open. Entering life he desires to grasp everything; leaving the world, all he possesses has slipped away." Take a moment to look at your hands. Are your hands giving hands? Are your hands holding hands and hoarding hands?

* * *

Try holding on to something when your hands are full. You can't. In the same way, it is difficult to hold on to God if your hands are full of worldly possessions. Come to think of it, life is all about letting go, and letting God. It is unfortunate that some people never ever learn this simple lesson in life, and so they spend a whole lifetime being tense, being miserable, and being unhappy.

* * *

There is a Jewish parable about two farmers who claimed to own the same cow. One pulled on the head, the other tugged at the tail... and the cow was milked by a lawyer! A lot of family feuds could be solved if only there is less greed. A lot of hurts could be avoided if only we learn to give in. A lot of precious memories could be made if only we reach out to each other in humility and break the walls that divide us. When, oh when, will we ever learn?

* * *

I've said it before, and I say it again. Use money for your salvation, not for your condemnation. At the end of our lives, in the final accounting, we will be judged according to how we acquired and used our worldly possessions. Remember, dirty money and unshared money can be used against you. Make sure that before you leave this world, you don't have in your possession ill-gotten money and accumulated money. The time to do that is now because we know not the time nor the hour when death will come. Don't get caught in the "last two minutes." Learn to "launder" and unload your money and possessions now, while you are still alive. And please, don't pass on your dirty money to your children.

* * *

Learn form the *gamu-gamu* (winged ant). I remember one evening—while studying for our comprehensive examinations in Theology—I observed a *gamu-gamu* crawling on my table. Every time it reached the edge of the table, it would stop, move backwards, go to another direction till it came to another end of the table. The *gamu-gamu* kept doing this over and over again. However, after some time, it did something different. It spread its wings, and flew away, free. Many of us continue to crawl with our feet and forget that we have wings. Such is the fate of people who spend a whole lifetime working like ants, accumulating so much money and possessions, forgetting that they have wings. Are you living the life of a crawler or a flyer?

* * *

If only we spent more time in thanking God for what we already have and still have, rather than on what we want to have, then we will know what peace and contentment really are. The thirst to have more is insatiable, and some people spend a whole lifetime desiring more and more, and never getting happy. How much more do you need to be happy? When will you say "Enough"? Someone said it so well—money is like seawater. The more you drink it, the more you thirst for it.

* * *

The realization of the suddenness of death and the shortness of life came to me some years ago when we visited an old folks' home during Christmas. During the party, there was an old woman who was dancing happily. In an instant, she collapsed. She was brought to her room where she eventually died. It was all so sudden. What struck me as I blessed her lifeless body was that this woman had literally nothing. All of her worldly possessions were put in one plastic bag. She was to be buried right away. No obituary. No wake. No eulogies. I will long remember the joy and freedom in her face, as she was dancing, and the utter suddenness and simplicity of her leaving. I know in my heart that she went straight into the embrace of the Heavenly Father, she who had nothing and no one in this life.

* * *

Reflect on this: "Too many of us are spending money we haven't earned, to buy things we don't need, to impress people we don't like."

* * *

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, as I go on in life, may my hands do more giving and folding, and less holding and hoarding. Amen.

Aglipay in my crystal ball

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

OUR congratulations to the Bureau of Internal Revenue on its centennial tomorrow. Willy Parayno is staying on board while Tony Bernardo is leaving Customs. The scramble is on for the waterfront post but an interim officer in charge seems to be the first step.

* * *

During the last few years, the Class of 1971 of the Philippine Military Academy has generally lost out in most of the major command designations in the armed forces. Lt. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, Class '71, Northern Luzon command (Nolcom) head lost out to Lt. Gen. Efren Abu, Class '72, for the post of Army commander. Vice Adm. Ariston delos Reyes, also of Class '71, was overtaken by Vice Adm. Ernesto de Leon, Class '72 as Flag Officer in Command (FOIC) of the Philippine Navy. In the Air Force, only recently, Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes, Class '73, jumped over Maj. Gen. Edwin Galzote, Class '71, for the premier post at Villamor Airbase. Even the highest position in the AFP, that of Chief of Staff, appears to be out of reach of any member of Class '71, although one might argue that Gen. Narciso Abaya is a member of the class since his name in the Alumni Registry is mentioned with the class.

The class is an interesting study in contrasts. Many of the officers who joined the "Reform the Armed Forces" Movement (RAM) in the struggle against the Marcos dictatorship belonged to this group. Among the more prominent were Gregorio Honasan, Eduardo Kapunan, Oscar Legaspi and Victor Batac. On the other hand, some of the administration stalwarts also belong to the same class, the most notable being Panfilo Lacson who recently lost in a strong bid for the presidency. If he and FPJ had been able to come to some agreement on a united front, we might have seen a different individual delivering the State of the Nation Address at the Batasan last week.

Just to provide the reader with some additional information on the class at the time of graduation, the Academy Scribe has the following notes: The Presidential Saber (awarded to the No. 1 graduate) was won by Oscar Martinez. He would also garner many of the individual awards but today he seems to have faded from the scene while less gifted classmates have risen to the top. The Secretary of National Defense Saber, (given to the No. 2 graduate) was awarded to Ariston delos Reyes, now the Vice Chief of Staff, AFP. It is interesting to note that Delos Reyes also received the Deputy Chief of Staff award. Some 32 years later, he actually became the Deputy Chief of Staff of the AFP. The Chief of Staff Saber (for the Cadet First Captain) went to Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan. According to some sources, the nickname was a takeoff from a Clint Eastwood movie, "A Fistful of Dollars." The hero in this spaghetti western was "Gringo," a cool, quiet but at times violent gun-for-hire who took up the cudgels for the oppressed. The Athletics Saber was given to Eduardo Matillano, a known foe of Panfilo Lacson. Both ended up with the PNP. (Contrary to common belief, being *mistahs* has not guaranteed lifetime camaraderie.)

The chair of the Honor Committee was Danilo Francia who joined the Air Force, while the Debating Council president was Hercules Catalunia, now with the PNP.

* * *

But going back to the plight of the Class of 1971, in the Philippine National Police, it is a completely different situation. As speculation concerning the early retirement of current chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. continues to mount, the four serious contenders for his job all belong to the Class of 1971. In alphabetical order, they are Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay, Deputy Director General Virtus Gil, National Capital Region Chief Ricardo de Leon and his predecessor, Reynaldo Velasco.

There are two conflicting laws that touch on the possible successor to PNP chief Ebdane. Much has already been written about these laws, so I won't dwell too much on the legal issues. Let me just briefly summarize them: The old law, RA 6975 says that no officer within six months of the compulsory retirement age of 56, can be appointed chief, PNP. A newer law, RA 8551 makes an exception for an officer who is up for appointment as chief, PNP. This is along the same lines as the AFP system which allows a similar exception for the chief of staff appointee.

Of course, the lawyers can make all kinds of interpretations to support their biases, so I don't think one should be too concerned with what is the correct reading. What is really important is the President's choice. Once she makes a decision, you can be certain that the Department of Justice or the presidential legal adviser will come out with an opinion which, from the legal standpoint, will strongly support the appointment of her man.

All four candidates are eminently qualified to serve as chief, PNP; otherwise, they would not be where they are today. They have all gone through the ladder of command and are well-prepared to assume the great responsibility of overseeing the national police organization. On the other hand, some law enforcement agencies, such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States, draw their leadership from the outside. Very often they come from the judiciary, like William Webster and Louis Freeh. The advantage of this system is that new ideas are injected into the system, often resulting in a more dynamic organization.

Of the four candidates, I must confess, Ed Aglipay has my vote. There is a sense of decency about the man which makes me feel he is right for the PNP leadership. Having said this, I hope that if given the opportunity to serve, Aglipay will also be given enough time in office to make a difference.

The toll of machismo

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

FR. Robert Reyes, "running priest," president of Gomburza, the organization of Filipino diocesan clergy, and feminist-in-training, called to ask if I could find space in this column for a reflection he prepared in connection with the case of Kenneth and Tere Duremdes. Father Robert says he is "helping out" in the case between the PBA cager and his estranged wife, and apparently he has learned much from this involvement about the impact of Pinoy machismo on relationships and families.

Father Robert entitled his piece "Kenneth and Tere, PBA and Pinoy Machismo." The statement follows in full:

* * *

"IT was a pleasant and interesting first encounter. Then there were more meetings. The initial friendship turns into romance, which quickly evolves into love. In no time they are talking marriage. For some wedding bells will peal. For others a quick civil wedding followed by a simple lunch with some relatives and friends. Many, however, simplify everything by just living together with neither plans nor commitment. Of course, children are not far behind. The friendship, turned into romance idealized into love inescapably sealed by children, is a process typical of so many celebrity weddings between the Machos of show biz, the PBA, politics, etc. and their love-struck and trusting wives to be.

"I write this article with pain in my heart and butterflies in my guts. How many marriages and relationships have I seen crumble or nearly crumble because of the illusions and delusions created by the empty chivalry of the culture of machismo which victimizes the men as much as their women? Recently, the Kenneth and Tere Duremdes romance, whose beginnings I witnessed, collapsed amid a case of bigamy and marital violence. Some months ago, we also witnessed the ugly end of the Kris-Joey affair. Sometime ago, we heard a President bragging about her 'plentiful sex life.' More than a year ago, we suffered the pangs of an unwanted sex scandal hitting no less than three Pinoy bishops.

"Whether on the hard court, location shooting, or in the halls of churches and rectories, Malacañang, or Senate or Congress, or various workplaces, the 'Pinoy male' is the same conscious or unconscious practitioner of 'Pinoy machismo.' Willy-nilly we enjoy the thrill and ego boost it gives us regardless of the negative effects it has on the women around us.

* * *

"WHAT exactly is Pinoy machismo? Let me attempt a brief description. The typical Pinoy is a little prince or king at home. Unlike his female siblings, he is often exempt from house chores, freer to go places with friends, able to stay out later without getting scolded. He is given more trust and privileges by the father, the male head of the family. He doesn't get scolded and corrected as much as his sisters inasmuch as he is a happy beneficiary of the privileges of simply being male. Thus, the majority of Pinoys grow into *señoritos* who expect women to serve them and cater to their every whim and fancy. He is not used to feedback, instead he prefers to dictate the laws and guidelines of the home or the workplace. He even dictates the ethics of interpersonal relationships. The Pinoy in this sense has gotten used to doing his own thing and getting what he wants.

"Compared to his female counterparts, he tends to practice unbridled consumerism. His consumption patterns depend on the availability or lack of funds. Rich men are big boys with terrific spending patterns. Remember that shop at Greenhills, 'Toys for the Big Boys'? A poorer man will definitely settle for less like a fighting cock, a daily OTB bet with beer, and a regular visit to his favorite girly bar. Richer men end up carousing in Pegasus. Girls then tend to be commodities to be consumed and discarded.

"Unfortunately, because of the female-male ratio, there is always an over-supply of women catering to the ever-hungry macho Pinoy.

Women are not commodities. Tere is no commodity to be left alone to care for her children while Kenneth does his thing on the hard court and elsewhere. By the way, Pinoy machismo can also afflict Pinays. I wonder, too how many of our Pinay leaders have female anatomies governed by male or macho brains?"

* * *

ALLOW me to use this space to thank individuals and institutions who cared for my late sister Neneng and who also helped see the family through these past few days.

In the last months of Neneng's life, Nurse Ana Maraingan cared for her at home as well as at the World Citi Medical Center and Capitol Medical Center.

From the start, Neneng was looked after by a top-notch team of specialists: US-based Dr. Gerry Evidente, a specialist in motor disorders; in Manila, she was under the care of Dr. Edwin Tucay, who headed the team at World Citi, and Dr. Joel Paz at CMC. We would like to acknowledge as well the assistance of Dr. Thelma Clemente, CMC's president and her son Ed and his wife Rho, as well as the very efficient and caring staff.

From Capitol, we transferred Neneng to the Rose Princess Hospice Center in Cabuyao, Laguna. We visited the hospice some months ago and found it clean, sanitary and most important, staffed by friendly, compassionate and efficient caregivers, headed by Dr. Lilia Carlos, a gerontologist. We would also like to thank Jo Tecson for providing the van that transported Neneng's furniture and equipment.

Our thanks go as well to everyone who facilitated the transfer of her remains from Laguna to the crematorium at the Manila Memorial Park; to the SVD Family who allowed us to disturb their peace by holding our wake and the nine-day novena at the Christ the King Seminary; and to the Pink Sisters. Specifically, we would like to thank Sr. Mary Hermenegildes of the Pink Sisters, Fr. Mario Bije, SVD, the priest in charge of Christ the King facilities, Rector Fr. Jose Caballes, SVD and Fr. Pablito Tagura, SVD and Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD.

Debating population

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

OF the many problems the President ignored in her last State of the Nation Address, the most glaring, perhaps, is the population growth. President Macapagal-Arroyo's silence on this issue is not unexpected. From the moment she assumed the presidency in 2001, population growth became a non-issue. So when Malacañang says it welcomes a debate on population policy, we know it's not serious.

The remnants of past programs to lower the country's alarming birth rate all but vanished under the present administration's strategy of benign neglect. The national government used the devolution of health functions to local government units as the occasion to erase population from its own advocacy list. Whereas the Department of Health champions programs like child immunization and SARS, favoring these with resources and sustained attention, it has left the family planning program to fight for its dwindling share of the health budget of every city and province.

I think all thinking Filipinos agree that the problem is not the size of our population per se. The problem is that, given the present state of our economy, too many Filipino children are being born to hunger, malnutrition, disease and illiteracy. They agree that something must be done about it, but they disagree on what needs to be done now to address this problem. Mass poverty is the other name of this state of affairs.

At the societal level, poverty is partly due to the slow growth of the economy and partly to the unequal distribution of resources. Those who emphasize the need to develop the economy first tend to look at high population growth as a problem. Those who stress the need to effect some kind of redistribution of wealth do not see population growth as a problem; they see the lack of opportunity and hopelessness arising from social inequality as the problem. Yet these are not mutually exclusive positions. Limiting the size of families may contribute to economic growth. But by itself economic growth does not solve poverty. And conversely, social redistribution cannot be a meaningful solution to poverty without some level of economic development.

I believe that, for societies like ours, the lessons from these two approaches are inescapable. We cannot take the road to sustained economic development at this point without adopting a clear national resolve to bring down our population growth rate. Likewise, we cannot hope to abolish mass poverty, or even begin to motivate our people to plan their families, unless the government makes a firm decision to actively support their basic needs for jobs, education, housing and health care.

Our problem is that the government has failed our people in both respects. We neither have a population policy nor a program of redistribution to meet basic needs. I attribute this to the unnecessary hardening of ideological or moral positions, which no doubt are linked to short-term political interests.

By whatever label it is referred to—whether "responsible parenthood" or "family planning"—our goal, I think, is pretty clear. It is to instill in our people the need to think of every child they bring into the world as a serious responsibility, not only to the child but to society as a whole. On the part of the state, the goal is to actively support Filipino parents by providing all the information and assistance they need to plan their families according to their conscience and belief. This includes information and support for both natural and artificial methods.

What has complicated the attainment of this objective, however, is the dispute over the proper role of the state in achieving the constitutional goal of responsible parenthood. Catholic leaders accused the government of leaning toward a "contraceptive culture" and promoting sexual promiscuity. They pronounced many artificial methods used by government as "abortifacients" disguised as contraceptives. They said that the aggressive pursuit of the government's population program violated many of the rights of families enshrined in Art. XV of the Constitution. These objections found a sympathetic ear in Ms Arroyo, who publicly professed to being a "*catolico cerrado*" and, therefore, conservative on population issues.

The net result of this reversal was not a simple change of emphasis from artificial to natural family planning but to an almost total abandonment of the population program. Without national government support, the program was bound to collapse. Neither the local governments nor the individual families of the poor were inclined to prioritize expenditures for condoms, IUDs and contraceptive pills, over other medical supplies. Sex education aimed at discouraging early pregnancies and marriages lost its urgency.

The current proposals for a two-child policy and for denial of access to public medical services to mothers on their third or fourth pregnancy may reflect the sense of urgency with which thoughtful legislators view the population problem. But all these will be resolutely opposed as violations of basic rights of the family that our Constitution guarantees. Instead of stimulating a reasoned debate on population, they may provoke the kind of instinctive conservatism that has set back all efforts to confront the population issue. The idea for a debate on population is to arrive at an acceptable strategy, not to rehearse a moral war.

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

Why Australia is hot on De la Cruz case

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

THERE'S more than meets the eye in the strong criticism by Australia of the decision of the Philippine government to pull out its humanitarian contingent from Iraq in exchange for the release of Angelo de la Cruz.

In gross violation of the rules of diplomacy, Australia used the media, rather than diplomatic channels, to question the Philippines' resolve to cooperate in the effort to fight international terrorism. For a country that has not directly suffered the horrors of war, Australia had the gall to lecture the Philippines on bravery and heroism. It's like a deserter teaching the virtues of sacrifice to a combat soldier.

Now, the country "Down Under" is claiming its safety has been compromised by President Macapagal-Arroyo's acceding to the demands of the kidnappers of De la Cruz. While the United States has tempered its rhetoric on the issue, Australia has become more popish than the Pope. It is blaming the Philippines for the continuing kidnap activities of Iraqi militants. It has conveniently forgotten that it was the United States that invaded Iraq and that the militants' actions are in retaliation for that intrusion.

Australia's insulting comments on the handling of the De la Cruz hostage problem were not mere outbursts; they were deliberate. The Australian officials who badmouthed the Philippines were fully aware of the implications of their undiplomatic remarks.

Regional clout

The reason behind their action could be any of the following:

First, to give Australia the high profile it needs to counteract the strong influence of China in this region. Australia is the only country in this part of the world that the United States can rely on to protect its interests and act as counterfoil to China's emerging political clout.

Among the allies of the United States in Asia, only Australia has the resources and financial muscle to match up to China's phenomenal economic growth and military strength. The influence of the United States in the region has waned as China's stature in the international community has risen. To the disappointment of the world's only superpower, most Asian countries look up to China for leadership and direction.

By echoing the United States' stand on terrorism, Australia is sending a strong message to China and other Asian countries that it is prepared to take on the role that the United States would have assumed were it not preoccupied with other problems in the world. Australia has made no secret of its intention to be the United States' right hand in Asia.

But it's doubtful if Australia will succeed in its efforts at image-building. It is viewed with suspicion by its Asian neighbors. No matter how it tries to present itself as a part of this region, its European roots make it difficult for Asians to accept it as one of their own. The Aussies' physical features, customs and way of life, to name a few, do not bear any resemblance to the Malay and Chinese ancestries that pervade this area.

Worse, until the late '70s, Australia, which started as a penal colony for British criminals, maintained a "white Australia" policy, meaning, only Europeans or Caucasians were welcome to settle in the country. The door was shut for the brown- or yellow-skinned nationals of its Asian neighbors. Although that policy has long been lifted, the image of Australia as a Western outpost in Asia remains.

Negotiation ploy

Second, Australia's criticisms are aimed at gaining bargaining chips against the Philippines for possible use in the future. By putting the Philippines on the "defensive" in the hostage issue, Australia is hoping the Arroyo administration will look for ways to assuage Australia's hurt feelings when things shall have cooled down.

In the diplomatic world, it is common practice for one country to make another country it does business with feel morally indebted to it, either through favors given in the past or by making the other country feel it has not done enough to make their relations fruitful.

It's called "guilt trip" in plain language. A person is made to believe that he has hurt another by his words or actions and, therefore, as a matter of moral obligation, should make amends or do something to assuage the feelings of the supposedly aggrieved party.

It is no coincidence that Australia and our country are locked in a stalemate over the entry of certain Philippine fruits to Australia. For the past three years, Australia has been putting up all kinds of obstacles in the export of those fruits in gross violation of the rules of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade.

A small group of Australian farmers has successfully pressured their government into making it difficult for Philippine fruits to enter Australia while Australian goods are freely admitted into our country.

With the cooling of Australian-Philippine relations over the De la Cruz issue, expect Australia to use it as an excuse to suspend indefinitely the trade talks or ask for the relaxation of the Philippines' trade demands, in exchange for Australia no longer making a big issue over the Philippines' "lack of cooperation" in the fight against terrorism.

Preemptive move

Third, Australia wants to make the Philippines the scapegoat in case the al-Qaida terrorist network makes good its threat to give the Australians a taste of terrorist activities right in their homeland.

In a few weeks, the Australians will elect their new leaders. Prime Minister John Howard's party does not have the elections in the bag. Many Australians are uneasy about his puppet-like endorsement of US President George W. Bush's handling of the Iraq and international terrorism problems.

If a terrorist attack in Australia succeeds with heavy loss of lives, Howard may suffer the same fate that befell Spanish Prime Minister Jose Aznar's party when terrorists bombed a railway station in Madrid—the Spaniards overwhelmingly voted Aznar's party out of power.

In case (knock on wood) the Madrid bombing is reprised in Australia, Howard can say to the Australian people that the attack would not have happened had the Philippines not emboldened the terrorists by giving in to their demands in the kidnapping of De la Cruz.

Like all politicians everywhere, Howard will do everything and anything to maintain himself in power. Never mind if, in the process, he slanders another country.

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Can day care centers bridge education gap?

GOVERNMENT leaders around the world recognize the importance of early education in developing their economies. In her State of the Nation Address on July 26, President Macapagal-Arroyo asked Congress "to legislate an extra year of studies not by adding a fifth year of high school but by standardizing what is taught in barangay day care centers."

Five days before, the President announced at a convention of district supervisors that the government would require children to attend kindergarten. "Half of what we've learned in life, we learned when we were six years old," she said. "According to a study, those who don't go to day care are the ones who drop out of school."

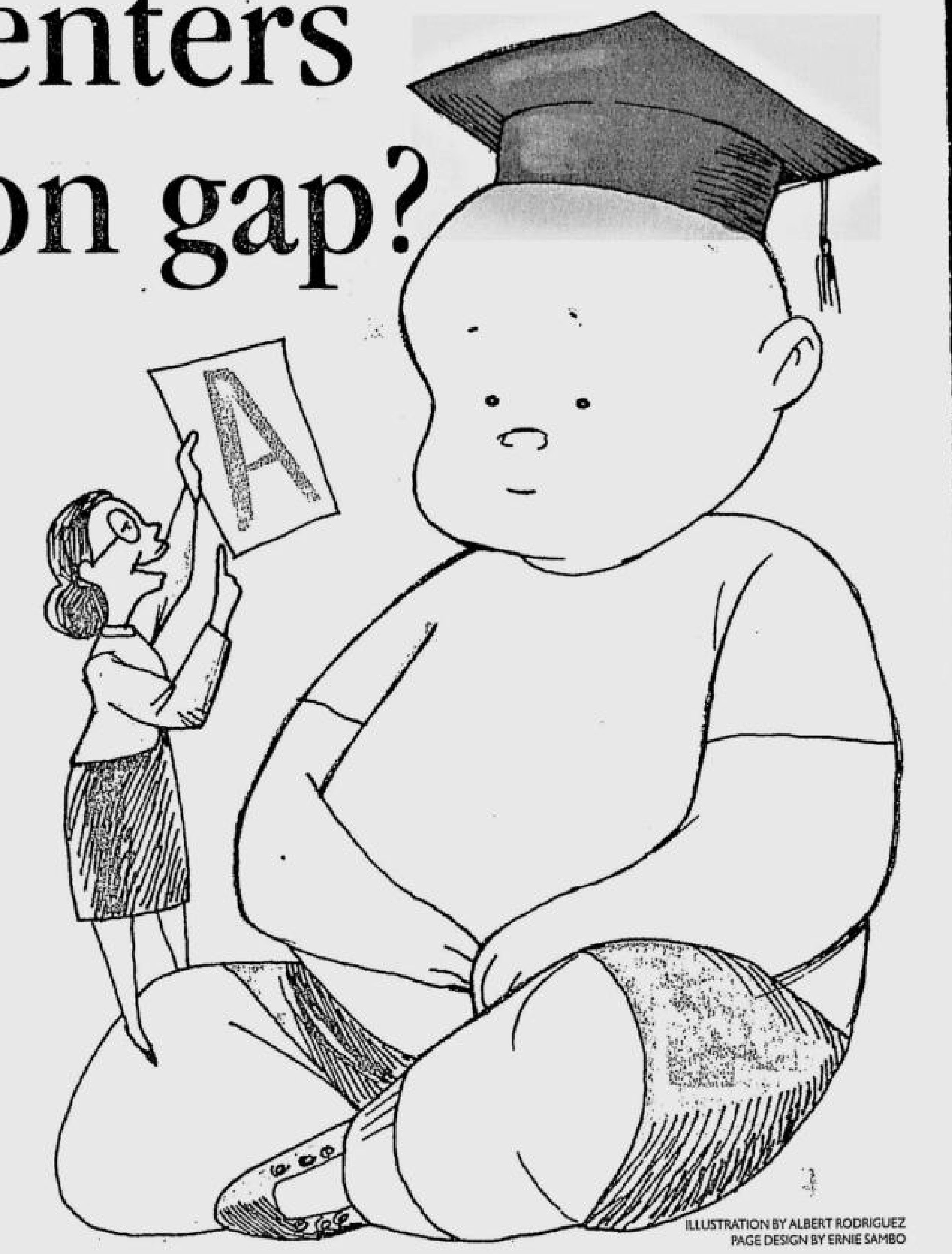
Calculations made by the Department of Education (DepEd) showed that it would need about P12 billion a year for a compulsory kindergarten program. DepEd has already organized kindergarten classes in some fifth and sixth class municipalities, spending about P50 million in 2003.

The President's announcement may spell the end of DepEd's bridge program. It required students, who did not master their elementary English, Math and Science, to go through a one-year program before they could enter first year high school. Because of protests, the bridge program is no longer compulsory.

In asking Congress to pass a law on kindergarten, Ms Arroyo wants to avoid protests similar to those triggered by DepEd's imposition of the bridge program.

To get the support of the public, Malacañang may learn a thing or two from the great debate launched by the French National Ministry of Education last November to allow French citizens to give their views on the school system.

Nearly one million French men and women have taken part in the debate on the future of their school system, according to Label France, the quarterly newsmagazine of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Some 21,000 public meetings were conducted and people were also given the opportunity to join an Internet discussion. The results of the consultation will form the basis of a law that will structure the French education system for the next 15 years.



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PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

Children learn fastest during first six years

By Corazon Juliano-Soliman
Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development

With President Macapagal-Arroyo's pronouncement in her State of the Nation Address "to add an extra year of studies not by adding a fifth year in high school but by standardizing what is being taught in barangay day care centers," the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is thrust at the forefront of this concern, being the primary proponent of the full implementation of Republic Act No. 6972, or the "Barangay-Level Total Development and Protection of Children Act."

Issued in November 1990, the law mandates the establishment of a day care center in every barangay, with a total development and protection of children program instituted in each center. The Department of Education (DepEd) is also put in the limelight, as the regulatory agency for preschool education, especially kindergarten.

Researches have proven that children learn fastest during the first six years of life. It is during this stage that important learning skills and attitudes as well as positive values are being developed. Whatever the child learns during this period is very critical because it will serve as the foundation of later life. Thus, the quality of services we offer to our children today will greatly affect the life of our citizens tomorrow.

DSWD's role

The DSWD was the main government provider of day care services before devolution. This program has been devolved to the local government units. Through RA 6972, local government units are mandated to establish one day care center in every barangay. The number of day care centers in the country has tremendously increased, making it more accessible and available to most children nationwide. The DSWD has retained its function in social mobilization and advocacy, policy guidelines, program development, provision of technical assistance and monitoring of the devolved functions. The department also collaborates and coordinates with other government, funding, private agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs).

The DSWD, with its commitment to protect and support the growth of every Filipino child, prompted the development of the Day Care Service (DCS). This service provides supplementary parental care to 0 to 5-year-old children whose parents have difficulty in fully taking care of their children because of work or other reasons.

Legislation

The importance of the child and development of his or her full potential are articulated in Article 1 of Presidential Decree No. 603, or the Child and Youth Welfare Code. The Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Health (DOH) and other non-government bodies were enjoined to serve this mission. Under RA 6972, a day care center needs to be established in every barangay to provide the DCS. Section 2 of this Act states that it is the policy of our country to defend the children and provide assistance for their needs, including proper care and nutrition, special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse and exploitation. The tasks include monitoring of birth registration, growth and nutrition, immunization and extending services to abused, neglected and exploited children.

To further improve day care services, the DSWD continues to advocate, in collaboration with other national government agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders, for the passage of a legislative agenda in Congress. Our priority legislative agenda includes the "Magna Carta for Day Care Workers." It seeks to promote, protect and improve the social and economic status of day care workers. It also seeks to professionalize the sector, which provides substitute parenting to children.

As of June 2004, the total number of day care centers was 44,118 and the total number of accredited day care centers was 26,615. These figures pertain only to day care centers managed by local government units, excluding private pre-school and DepEd-run preschool centers. Day care workers total 43,270, of whom only 26,424 are accredited by the DSWD.

Across 90 provinces and 32,347 barangays, these day care centers have served 1,344,273 children. However, of the 39,073 barangays in the country, 6,726 don't have a day care center.

Bright child

The Bright Child, launched in January of this year, seeks to promote a single script in pursuing an integrated approach to service delivery, consisting of health, nutrition and psychosocial stimulation and early childhood education.

Every Filipino couple—regardless of income class—has a wish that each of their offspring would come out healthy, normal and bright. Each of us wants a bright child— one who is physically, mentally and emotionally healthy.

It is on this universal aspiration of every Filipino couple and family that the Bright Child is based. This is a nationwide advocacy, with special focus on the seven regions with the greatest number of nutritionally depressed municipalities: Regions V, VI, VII, VIII, XII, National Capital Region and Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

By the end of 2004, Bright Child aims to:

- Cover at least 80 percent of the nutritionally depressed municipalities;
- Decrease under-5 mortality rate in target areas by 50 percent; and
- Achieve an 80-percent awareness or recall level nationwide

Nutrition, immunization

To achieve the goals of the Bright Child project, various government agencies were tasked with converging and integrating their services. The DOH and the National Nutrition Council will spearhead the health and nutrition component. This will cover: immunization for 0 to 9 months, maternal health care or pre- and post-natal care and proper nutrition education.

DAY CARE CENTERS IN THE COUNTRY (As of June 2004)

Region	Number	Accredited Centers	Day Care-Workers	Accredited Workers	No. of Children Served
CAR	1,640	1,148	1,628	1,148	30,232
NCR	1,431	1,028	1,380	975	101,051
Caraga	1,757	960	1,753	960	51,430
I	2,907	2,019	2,782	1,952	74,508
II	2,345	1,676	2,333	1,678	63,171
III	3,578	2,255	3,554	2,228	120,499
IV	6,426	3,394	6,362	3,393	174,999
V	3,746	2,106	3,773	2,077	99,394
VI	4,497	2,960	4,497	2,960	176,854
VII	3,660	1,978	3,660	1,978	113,728
VIII	2,823	1,256	2,283	1,256	79,222
IX	1,944	1,642	1,944	1,642	52,544
X	2,768	1,709	2,754	1,707	74,642
XI	2,321	1,474	2,286	1,473	70,754
XII	2,275	1,010	2,281	997	66.638
Total	**44,118**	**26,615**	**43,270**	**26,424**	**1,349,666**

SOURCE: DSWD

The DepEd will spearhead the education component. It will undertake proper nutrition program and exercises and supplemental feeding for children in Grade I.

The Department of Agriculture will spearhead the food component, by ensuring that families have food from backyard gardening, livestock and poultry fattening and other livelihood programs.

The DSWD is in charge of the psychosocial care and development component. Under this, we shall provide home-based and center-based psychosocial stimulation, supplemental feeding in day care centers and effective parenting and nutrition education seminars.

From day care to kindergarten

Day care centers are organized to provide psychosocial stimulation and socialization exercises for the kids, so that they learn how to be social beings. They are supposed to be the public institution that helps in the formation of values of children by teaching right manners and good conduct. Day care centers provide some cognitive exercises on shapes, sounds, basic concepts on arithmetic like counting and basic concepts on reading, but they were set up primarily to focus on socialization.

There's a high correlation between succeeding as a cohort and graduating up to high school if someone had some day care center exposure.

We believe that the formative years of a child are really from 0 to 7 years old. Many of the things a person believes in and the experiences that influence and shape him/her into who he/she is happen during the first seven years.

All I need to know

That is why there is this book "All I Need To Know I Learned From Kindergarten" (Robert Fulghum). It is true that we learn it all in that age and the foundations are very important.

So given that the proposal to convert day care centers into kindergartens serves the interest of providing a sound foundation for our children. The foundation of good values and the foundation of discipline and good study habits will help the child to be a good student and allow him to aim for higher education. One inculcates a thirst for learning at that very early stage.

Thus, this proposal would mean major rework and transformation of the day care centers. It means coordinating and working with the DepEd and jointly developing a curriculum that would not stymie the growth of creativity of children because we don't want to put them in a very structured learning environment. At the same time, we want to introduce at that stage a learning process and structure that will help them in their quest for knowledge and development.

Strengthening formative education is better than one more year in high school

By Maricel L. Dacuycuy
Head, Early Childhood Education Division, Muntinlupa City

I have always been a firm believer in day care. That's why it came as a welcome surprise when President Macapagal-Arroyo announced that instead of an extra year in high school, children would have to start their education early.

It is at this stage that children's brains are like sponges, soaking up everything they see, feel, hear, smell, and taste, and keeping all these information for life. Strengthening the formative education of our kids is a lot better than forcing them to slog through another year at a time when raging hormones disrupt their learning processes.

However, instead of forming a new kindergarten curriculum, much attention should be devoted instead to improving the country's day care system. It is a common misconception that the day care serves as a babysitter and not as children's earliest idea of school.

In many places, day care education is done with hand-me-downs and improvised resources and facilities, as there is an apparent need for supplemental materials for daycare.

The City of Muntinlupa offers children (3 to 5 years old) a complete early education to prepare them for school. A Weekly Program Activity Guide (WPAG), which serves as the framework for a whole-year activity in the day care center, features self-discovery, learning about family, environment, community, country, and the world.

Teachers are constantly trained and educated to keep up with current trends and findings. A competent staff under the Early Childhood Education Division (ECED) manages all these. To date, we are currently working to publish an activity book based on the learning activities prescribed in the WPAG to be used in all day care centers (DCCs) in Muntinlupa.

Depressed areas

The city's day care program started in 1976 as an affordable means to prepare children for primary education. It serves as preparatory learning program to as many as five percent of the children in depressed areas found in eight barangays. Many of the parents are vendors and factory workers.

At present, there is a student-teacher ratio of 1:79, which covers the morning and afternoon shifts. This means that there is one teacher teaching as much as 79 students a day. A qualified teacher-aide helps to keep the children's eyes glued to the teacher. To be able to teach, one must be a college graduate with a degree in elementary education.

As of June 2004, there were 66 DCCs in the city, with six more awaiting accreditation. There are 5,411 children enrolled in these centers. The city government has allocated P9.6 million for ECED this year, which translates to P1,774.16 per student.

This emphasis on early childhood training is in keeping with Mayor Jaime R. Fresnedi's policy of making education the number one priority in his Eight-Point Program of Governance.

It comes as no surprise then to see achievers in the city, who graduated from day care centers. A number of them are currently working for the city government; a significant portion is back in the day care centers, teaching kids. If there is anything day care "alumni" have learned during their time in the DCC, it is giving back and passing on the gifts they have received.

I believe the bridge program may not be able to duplicate the passing on of values and principles as well as of knowledge to kids in their formative years. With an effective day-care program, there is no better way to bridge the gap in our education system.

(Dacuycuy is a day care graduate and a JRF scholar. She is the author of a new children's activity book to be distributed in day care centers in Muntinlupa.)

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US warship fined for dumping waste

By Ansbert Joaquin
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—**Three months after a United States vessel was fined for spilling oil in Subic Bay, another American vessel would be fined $10,000 (P559,500) for discharging human wastes into the waters here.**

The ecology department of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority on Friday issued a notice of violation against USS Russell, a day after it received a hazard report from the SBMA port operations division indicating that the vessel discharged human wastes at Alava Pier here.

The $10,000 penalty was the second fine imposed against a US vessel in three months.

The United States has paid a $5,000 (P279,750) fine to the SBMA treasury department on April 27 after one of its warships, USS Coronado, spilled oil in Subic Bay.

Andrew Busk, the vessel's chief engineer, told SBMA officials that the spill was accidental.

USS Russell is a guided missile destroyer and one of the four US vessels that docked in Subic on Tuesday as part of the Cooperation Afloat Readiness Training (Carat) Exercise 2004.

The other three vessels with the US contingent are the guided missile destroyer USS McCampbell, rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor and dock landing ship USS Fort Mac Henry.

An incident report signed by Jerome Martinez, port operations chief, said that at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the day the four US vessels arrived in Subic, ship boarding officer Ruel Juaban reported that the USS Russell discharged wastes directly into the sea, which was found later to be human wastes.

The wastes, the report added, were found floating and covering an area of six square meters of water.

"It seems that these violations of environmental rules by VFA (Visiting Forces Agreement) ships are becoming habitual," said Amethya Dela Llana-Concepcion, SBMA ecology department head.

"This, to me is at the least, indicative of carelessness in operations," she said.

In the report, Martinez said his team took pictures of the waste discharge using a digital camera but unidentified US Navy personnel accosted the team and confiscated the diskette where the images were stored.

Abner Tirona, SBMA safety inspector, later went to the field office of the vessel's shipping agent, Global Ship Management Inc., to retrieve the diskette but was told by the firm's owner, Rose Baldeo, that the diskette was with the US Navy personnel aboard the USS Russell.

Concepcion ordered officials of the vessel to submit an incident report indicating actions taken in connection with the discharge and submit a written explanation on the reported confiscation by USS Russell personnel of the diskette containing photos showing the extent of discharge.

She also asked them to immediately conduct a clean-up operation.

ROUNDUP

Poll protest dismissed

IBA, Zambales—A judge here dismissed an election protest filed by a losing candidate against Mayor Danilo Pamoleras after the loser failed to pay the required P350 filing fee for the case. Judge Clodualdo Monta of the regional trial court branch 70 here said the court has no jurisdiction over the protest filed by Doris Maniquiz-Jeresano, Pamoleras' rival in the mayoral post here, when she failed to pay the filing fee on schedule. Pamoleras won by 25 votes over Jeresano. Monta also dismissed a counter protest filed by Pamoleras against Jeresano, saying the mayor also failed to pay the filing fees. Monta said errors in the payment of filing fees in election cases are no longer excusable and shall be a ground for the dismissal of the case. ***Cesar Villa, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Burnham Park revival

BAGUIO CITY—With mounting complaints of Baguio's loss of beauty, tourism officials are bent on reviving Burnham Park and other tourist attractions here when they hold a tourism summit in August. Nicolas Tabora, chair of the Baguio Tourism Council, said they are preparing medium and long-term development plans to boost tourism here. He said they also want to position Baguio as a heritage city and convention center. Purificacion Molintas, tourism regional director, said despite complaints, this mountain resort city still attracts tourists and investors. ***Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

800 bags of sugar seized

LEGAZPI CITY—Four container vans aboard M/V Cebu Sulpicio Lines, allegedly containing 800 bags of raw sugar from Cebu City, were seized by the Philippine Coast Guard in the Masbate City port on Friday last week, a PCG report said. The P800,000-worth of sugar had no permit issued by the Sugar Regulatory Administration office in Cebu City, the report added. A certain Lita Bocboc, said to be the consignee, did not appear to claim the sugar. The SRA Cebu City office said Bocboc was not a registered sugar trader and not authorized to ship sugar, the PCG said. ***Joanna Teressa P. Los Baños, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

P30-M agri fund

CALAPAN CITY—Some P30 million has been allocated for the Agro-Industrial Development Program of Oriental Mindoro and P10 million for its fisheries development for this year, according to Provincial Agriculturist Office head Rodolfo Valdez. He said his office seeks to further increase the *palay* production of farmers with some 4,400 hectares to be planted with hybrid *palay* while 8,500 hectares will be planted with ordinary *palay*. ***Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Drug-buster buried

CALAPAN CITY—Supt. Rodrigo Foja, 43, assistant provincial director and head of the 40th Provincial Police Mobile Group, was buried on July 24 in Barangay Tawiran here. Hundreds sympathized with the Foja family, saying Foja was "a big loss to the province." Foja had received numerous awards for his antidrug accomplishments, among others. His assassin, Rene Rom, was also gunned down by his aides in an exchange of gunfire last July 20. Rom's brother, PO1 Ricky Rom, has been charged as an accomplice to direct assault with murder at the city trial court. PO1 Rom surrendered to Calapan City chief of police Alexander Aceveda and is now at the city jail.
Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Moratorium defended

CALAPAN CITY—The provincial board, through Vice Gov. Arnan Panaligan, said it would defend the 25-year mining moratorium in Oriental Mindoro, which it passed in January 2002, even in an international court. The board was reacting to the reinstatement by Malacañang last March 2004 of the Mineral Production Sharing Agreement between Crew Gold Corp. (formerly Mindex) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The MPSA was revoked by former Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez in July 2001. ***Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Healing nun in Calapan

CALAPAN CITY—Some 700 to 800 patients benefited from the missionary visit of Sr. Mary Immaculata of the Reparation Sisters of the Holy Eucharist in the city cathedral last July 14-16. Called the healing sister of Tagaytay, Sister Mary is a granddaughter of the first woman doctor in the Philippines, Dr. Paz Mendoza, according to lawyer Erlinda Espiritu, organizer of the healing sessions.
Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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JASMIN RICE
PANDAN
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SWEET TIME
A child appears to enjoy eating ice cream while keeping his mother company at a rice retail store in Baguio City.
EV ESPIRITU/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Ex-bar workers protest plan to demolish their Clark stalls

ANGELES CITY—Angry at President Macapagal-Arroyo and the state-owned Clark Development Corp., former bar worker Regina Cadag hit the tip of her umbrella on the floor while she guarded her stall against members of a demolition crew on Fields Avenue here on Saturday.

"If (Ms Arroyo) promised 10 million jobs, why are we being forced to leave and our stalls are being demolished?" asked Cadag, 57, a native of Albay.

Cadag and 77 other former bar workers in the red light district of Fields here are among the 165 operators of stores at the perimeter of the nearby Bayanihan Park, just outside the main gate of Clark, a former American military air base.

"I would defend my stall with my life. This land is for Filipinos. We have a right to this place. Here, we managed to stand on our own. Where's the President's promise of 10 million jobs when we are being ejected?" Cadag said.

Romana Mameta, president of the Bukang Liwayway Women's Cooperative, the organization of former bar workers here, said the stalls "are our only hope."

Mameta said these were the "fruits of our efforts to overcome the closure of Clark (Air Base) and the eruptions of Mt. Pinatubo." Both happened in 1991.

"No nightclub would take us in now. We might be kicked out just when we are approaching the doorsteps," Mameta, 42, said.

"Those stalls helped many of us leave the (flesh) trade," she said.

Mameta was referring to the local prostitution industry that has become the "rest and recreation" destination of US troops assigned in Clark until 1991 when the Philippine Senate ordered Clark and Subic in Zambales closed.

Each stall—which sells barbecue, lechon and food and gift items, or used as karaoke joints—employs an average of 10 people. Along the same strip, more than 200 families have built shanties.

According to Mameta, the members of Bukang Liwayway obtained permits to operate the stalls from former Angeles City Mayor Edgardo Pamintuan who provided alternative livelihood projects to displaced workers at Fields Avenue. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

PDI scholarship paves way for changes, electricity for 13-yr-old boy, family

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Reymond Tabora, 13, did not know what it was like to live in a home that had electricity. When the rains came, the nipa roof of his house leaked.

This was until the Philippine Daily Inquirer, through its Newsboy Foundation, came along and granted him a scholarship that enabled his father to save enough money to get their house connected to the Central Negros Electric Cooperative (Ceneco).

After 16 years, their small bamboo and nipa house finally had electricity after his father used part of P1,600, the allowance given for his scholarship in June, to get their home connected to Ceneco.

Reymond, a first year high school student at the Lopez Jaena National High School in Murcia town, Negros Occidental, says studying at night using a kerosene lamp was difficult.

"Now with electricity at home it is much easier to study," he says.

His favorite subject is science and he wants to be an agriculturist someday. "I want to plant hybrid rice and get rich someday," says the 5 feet 1 inch tall boy with chubby cheeks.

Reymond has heard of the hybrid rice Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo has been encouraging local farmers to plant so they can become rich.

He says his maternal grandfather, Cristitu, is a small farmer, too.

The electricity has not only helped him but his entire family, he says. His other siblings—Fernando Jr., 14, Floradel, 9, and Christian, 4, now can also study better at night.

Reymond's small house was also tilting on its side and the nipa roof leaked when strong rains came. But an invitation to go to Manila by the INQUIRER changed all that.

Accompanied by Jimmy Gonzales, the INQUIRER's dealer in Bacolod City, Reymond went to Manila to attend the Newsboy Foundation's awarding rites at the INQUIRER Makati office last July 21, where he also received P5,000 and P2,500 from the Philippine Print Media Organization.

His father, PDI newsboy Fernando Tabora, 39, said they used the money Reymond was given to buy materials to prop up their house and to change their nipa roof to galvanized roofing.

"Now, we are all set for whatever rains come because our house does not leak anymore," Fernando says.

Great adventure

But it seems that more than the money, the July 21 overnight trip to Manila was Reymond's great adventure.

Although he lives in Murcia town he has not ever been to the town's famous Mambukal Nature Park and Resort because his father spends all his days distributing newspapers so they can eat. There was just no extra fund for going anywhere.

Each day for Reymond is traveling three kilometers on a jeep to go to school and to return home.

So the opportunity to go to Manila for him was something he never dreamed, until Gonzales came and told his father that Reymond was invited to go to the INQUIRER for the Newsboy Foundation's awarding of scholarships.

Reymond rode an airplane for the trip to the big city. He sat by the window so he could look out and watch the clouds and the little specks on houses below. It was his first ever experience on an airplane.

In Manila, he says, he stayed at the hotel where he was amazed to see 100 channels on the television set.

(Reymond and Gonzales were billeted at the Corporate Inn along Kalaw, Ermita, Manila, just beside the INQUIRER's circulation office.)

When he got home, Reymond says he told his classmates about it because in Murcia, all he had seen were television sets with three channels.

It was also exciting, he says, to go to the PDI office where the air-conditioning system was "very cold."

"I thank the INQUIRER for the opportunity they gave me and for my scholarship," he says.

Gonzales says he has made sure that the scholarships given by the INQUIRER go to those most in need.

Magat River cleanup set

RAMON, Isabela—Agriculture and irrigation officials and fish cage operators here have joined hands in a massive cleanup along the tributaries of Magat River and waterways leading to the Magat Dam to prevent another fish kill in the area.

Lynfa Aquino, fisheries sector chief of the Isabela agriculture office, said the recent cleanup would ensure that the tributaries leading to the dam, the main irrigation and power source in Cagayan Valley, are free from pollutants.

Aquino said a sustained cleanup along Magat Dam and the tributaries feeding it is one of the preventive measures against pollution and fish kills. Fish cage operators in the province have lost at least P50 million due to fish kills in the past years.

Officials said most of the wastes in the dam and tributaries here come from at least 600 houses built on the waterways that are being used by fish cage operators.

Pelagio Gamad, National Irrigation Administration integrated irrigation system district manager, said about 1,500 fish cages were illegally built along the Magat River.

He said he has ordered his men to dismantle the structures.

Gov. Maria Gracia Cielo Padaca, in a visit to the dam site, asked fish cage operators to follow the law and help maintain the water quality in the area.

"We should take care of the very thing that gives us life," she said.

Dam officials said water at the Magat Dam has been observed to be at an "erratic level" in the past months. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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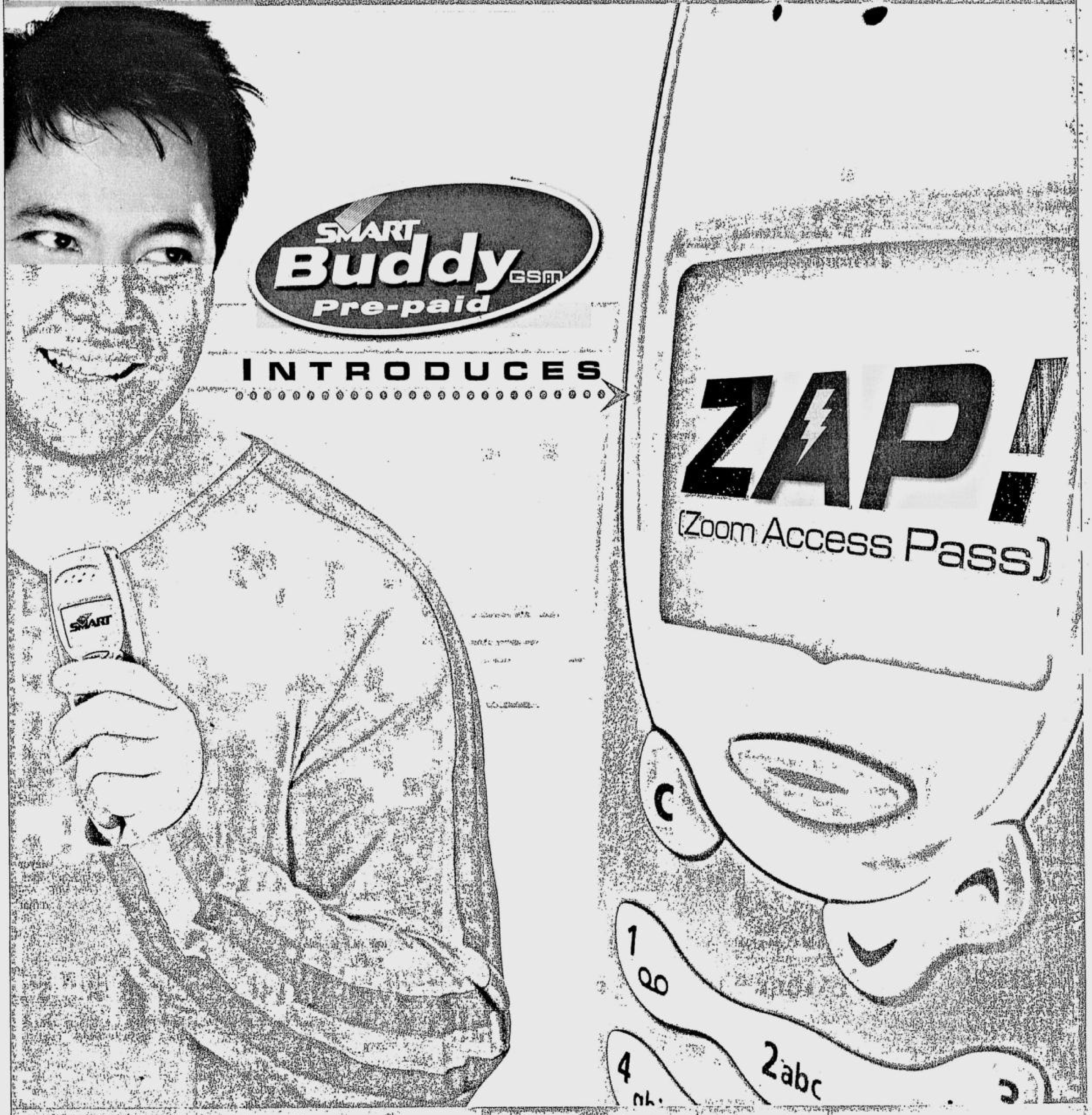
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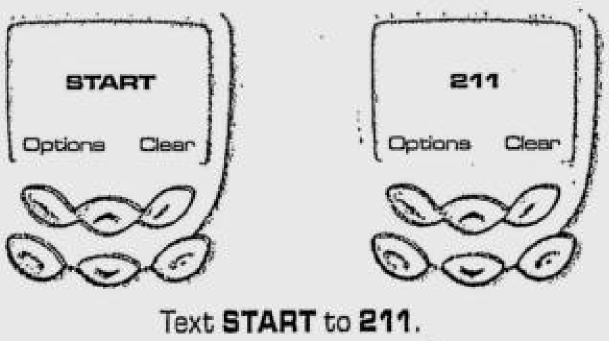
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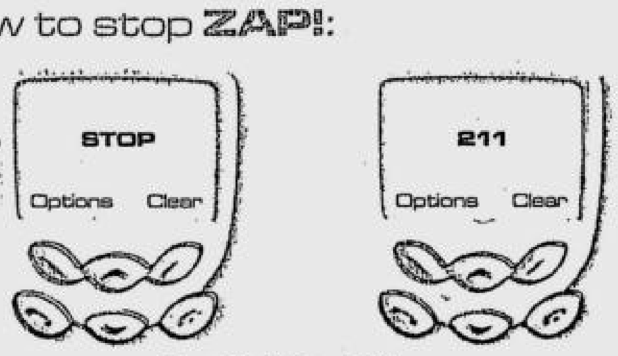
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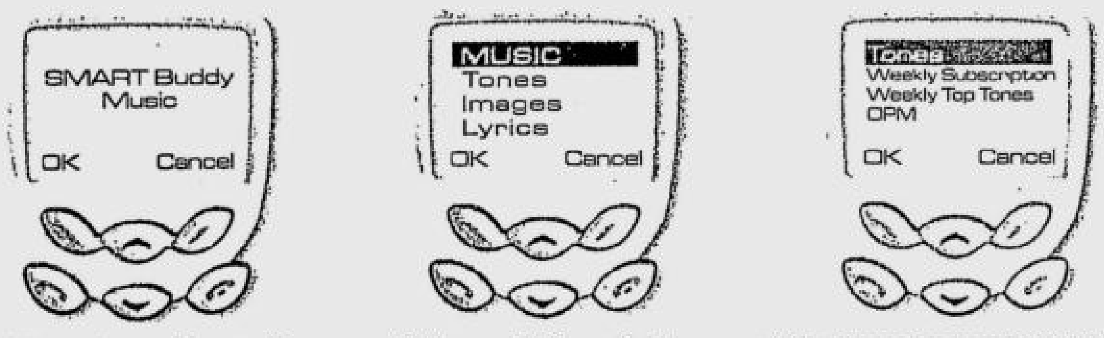
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Laguna town mayor wins top league position

STA. ROSA, Laguna—What ought to be a hotly-contested election of the Laguna mayor's league held here yesterday went on without a hitch after members of both the administration and opposition agreed to set aside their political differences in naming their new set of officers.

The victory of Siniloan Mayor Gilmore Acero as the new league president dismissed talk that several Malacañang officials wanted to interfere with the affairs of the association of local executives in the province.

The election, held in Barangay Balibago turned into a virtual political lobbying as Mayor Joel Cuento of Sta. Maria town and Fely Vierneza of San Pedro both suggested that the election for their new president should be discarded to smoothly give the chairmanship to Acero.

"When we ran in the last elections, we all wanted to win unopposed to minimize troubles and avoid division among our constituents. What more in this kind of (organization)," Cuento told the 27 mayors present in the meeting.

Following rules

But Los Baños Mayor Caesar Perez, one of the election committee members, disagreed and reiterated that they should follow the guidelines set by the constitution of the League of Mayors in the Philippines (LMP).

"Whatever we want to do, it should be according with the LMP by-laws. If you want Mayor Acero to run unopposed, then someone should nominate him and let us proceed with the election," Perez explained.

In the ensuing nomination, Magdalena Mayor Teresa Reodica nominated Acero who won when unopposed after all the mayors concurred to Cuento's proposal.

Acero, who is on his second term as town mayor and all the 13 other officers of the league won their seats without any opposition.

The mayors also agreed to give Acero a free hand to pick the eight members of the Board of Directors.

With the agreement between the mayors, the election lasted for only 25 minutes, which could enter the record books as one of the fastest elections for a government organization ever.

Meddling

The mayors, allied to the ruling Lakas-CMD party and the opposition, denied that President Macapagal-Arroyo and other Malacañang officials meddled with the election to let Acero win the chairmanship.

Perez said they never received any word from the President or any government official asking them to support Acero or any other mayor. He said he doesn't believe the rumors which said Arroyo wanted to interfere with how the LMP is being run. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Cathedral roof work divides Laoag folk

By Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—For the group opposing the restoration of the Laoag Cathedral (St. William's Cathedral), it means robbing the community of its cultural heritage. To the clergy, the restoration means sparing the lives of parishioners from peril.

This, in capsule, is the line dividing the groups generated by the rehabilitation of the cathedral roofing.

Fr. Jacinto Jose, Laoag's parish priest, announced after his homily on July 11 that the groundbreaking for the rehabilitation work would begin on Aug. 1.

The restoration work is expected to be completed in February next year, in time for the feast of St. William the Hermit, Laoag's patron saint.

A survey of the church's roofing done by government engineers showed that at least 75 percent of the wooden braces had decayed through the years.

Officials of the Laoag diocese, through Bishop Ernesto Salgado and in consultation with engineers and architects, then planned to replace the wooden support with steel works.

Of all the centuries-old Catholic churches in Ilocos Norte, only the churches of Laoag, Sarrat and Piddig have kept their original wooden-braced roofing.

In preparation for the rehabilitation, church officials have started peeling the ceiling, exposing the wood support composed of hard logs that date back to the early 1700s.

Jose recalled that a log fell from the ceiling at one point while a funeral mass was being heard. The log fell on the spot where a man was previously standing.

"By God's graces, no one was hurt. We can no longer afford to delay the roof's rehabilitation because the next log may hit a parishioner and we will be liable," the priest said.

Jose noted that the logs had decayed badly such that their skin felt like paper when they pricked them with a boring tool.

He said steel works were the most practical and cost-effective material that could be used to replace the wooden beam.

When word spread of the cathedral's restoration, Al Valenciano, artistic director of Museo Ilocos, and a group of conservationists started a signature campaign to convince church officials to take another look at their plan to replace the structure's rotting wooden truss work with steel.

In their letter, Valenciano said the church's present truss work is a result of centuries of experimentation of the most effective means to cover huge spans of similar structures in an earthquake-prone area.

"In these earthquake-ravaged, fire-plagued and war-torn islands, a handful of examples has survived, and Laoag boasts of one of the longest spans," the letter said.

The current truss work system at the cathedral has endured more than 100 years from its construction, Valenciano's group said, adding that it has been barely modified since the last quarter of the 19th century.

"The compatibility of steel with a building at least 150 years old has yet to be tested. Should we then run the risk of implementing a system which has not even been proven to withstand the effects of earthquakes known to occur frequently in the region?" the group asked.

Valenciano sat down with Salgado last April and laid down a report that would serve as an alternative to the prelate's plan to alter the wooden church beams.

The report included an assessment of construction materials so that those to be conserved are segregated from those to be discarded.

"The bottom line is, if the church is to be restored, it must be restored with wood, not steel," Valenciano said.

"To change the trusses from wood to steel is effectively erasing a testament to the long history of the St. William's Cathedral from its beginnings in the 1700s to its last great rehabilitation in 1891."

But according to Jose, Salgado has given the clearance for the restoration using steel trusses after weighing all sides .of concerned groups.

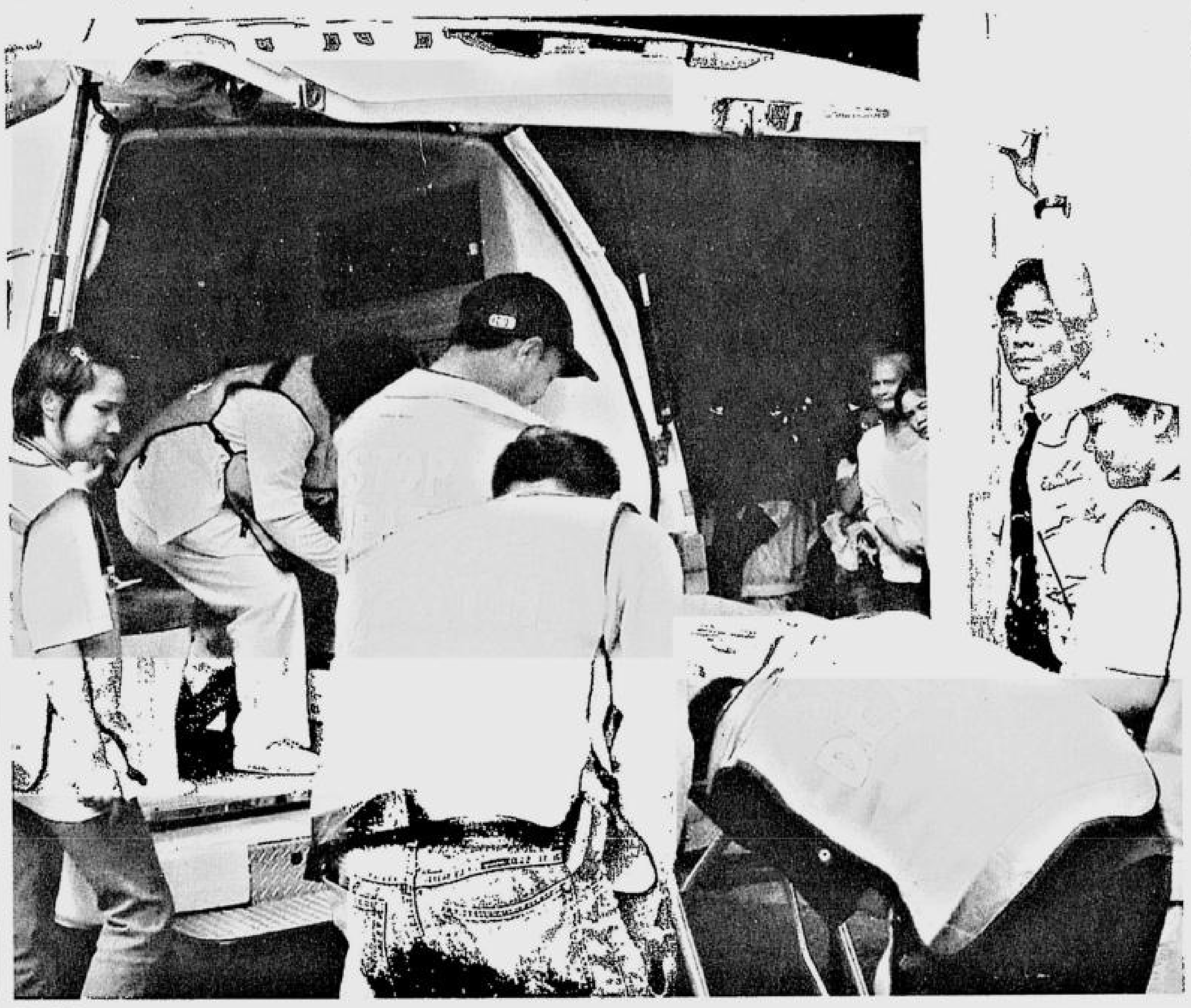
Jose said the cost of replacing the roof with wood meant increasing the cost of building materials two-folds.

The church would spend P12.5 million in repairing the roof using steel compared to wood, which would amount to P25 million.

"Practically, we will spend P100,000 for one log alone and we need more than 200 logs to build one section of the roof," Jose said.

He said the wood works needed for the roof are not even commercially available in the country and would have to be imported from Australia.

"At this point, people's lives are at stake. I hope people will share my fear which I carry before I go to bed and upon waking up in the morning," Jose said.



DRILL
TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON
Members of rescue teams in Baguio City simulate disaster response in a recent drill in the country's summer capital.

Mayors told not to drag poor in feud

By Bernadette A. Parco
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal asked local officials not to drag fish vendors into their dispute over ownership of part of the P3.4 billion-worth South Reclamation Project (SRP).

"If there is a quarrel between two mayors, I hope it will just be relegated to the principles that they are discussing or fighting over… (and) will not go down to the affairs of our poor," Vidal told reporters here Thursday.

Cebu City Mayor Tomas Osmeña and former Talisay City Mayor and now first district Rep. Eduardo Gullas have been at odds since last year after Gullas insisted that Talisay City has a claim over a 53-hectare reclaimed lot at the Cebu city-owned SRP.

Osmeña has maintained that Talisay could not claim any part of the SRP since part of the project that belongs to Talisay, the 20.5-hectare Pond C, is yet to be reclaimed.

The feud came to a head last week when Osmeña declared he was cutting all ties with his neighboring city and stopped Talisay's vendors from selling at Cebu City's main fish market.

Osmeña said he was just enforcing Cebu City Ordinance No. 1486 or the revised Market Code of the City of Cebu.

NIA threatens to rescind contract

ROXAS CITY—The National Irrigation Administration (NIA) has threatened to rescind the contract of a Pampanga-based contractor over extended delays in the construction of the P21 million-irrigation project in Barangay Jebaca, Maayon town, Capiz.

Capiz provincial irrigation officer Benedicto Denosta said Tombo Construction and Development Corporation had not even completed 10 percent of the project since it started the work in April 2002.

The NIA central office, he said, would conduct an investigation to determine what took so long for the project to be completed.

His office, he added, had the capability to take over the project once the contract was rescinded.

Bansil added that last June 1, 2004, the project's cofferdam was destroyed by a flash flood. The project was later redesigned after the contractor found that the soil was composed mainly of fragmented rock.

Denosta said that with enough water, the farmers' produce could increase from 60 cavans to as much as 90 cavans per hectare. *Felino Celino, PDI Visayas Bureau*

2 Mindanao solons seek poll postponement

COTABATO CITY—At least two Muslim congressmen from the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) are pushing for the postponement of the September regional elections.

Maguindanao 2nd district Rep. Simeon Datumanong and Lanao del Sur Rep. Faysah Dumarpa want the elections deferred because of various reasons including alleged lack of preparation and budget.

The idea for the postponement of the ARMM elections came a week after President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo invited Muslim legislators to Malacañang for a meeting about the ongoing negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Datumanong and Dumarpa were silent about the outcome of the meeting.

Peace advocate Fr. Eliseo Mercado, who played a vital role in the 1996 peace agreement with the Moro National Liberation front (MNLF), said the postponement of the elections could be a window of opportunity for both the government and the MILF.

Participate in polls

He said if a final peace settlement is signed with the MILF, the rebel group could participate in the elections.

Dumarpa said she filed a bill calling for the postponement of the elections at the House of Representatives.

This is not the first time legislators have called for the postponement of the regional elections. During the time of then Gov. Nur Misuari, legislators postponed the elections twice.

She said in her bill, she wanted the elections held in May next year, to coincide with the barangay elections.

Enough time

Dumarpa said deferring the elections would give enough time to political aspirants and the poll body to prepare for clean and honest elections using the computerized balloting system.

Datumanong said he would try to convince other Mindanao legislators to set the elections in November or December this year.

Datumanong said the ARMM is yet to recover from the recently held national and local elections so holding another exercise in September would not be good.

Commission on Elections chair Benjamin Abalos said the poll body has prepared for the ARMM elections in September. *Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

24 tons of white coral sand seized in Lucena

LUCENA CITY—An estimated 24 tons of white coral sand in jute sacks were confiscated by a provincial multi-sectoral task force while the cargo being unloaded at the Dalahican port here Friday morning.

The Task Force Matatag, composed of environmentalists, police officers and inspectors from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, said the smuggled sand came aboard M/V Cookie that originated from Masbate Island.

According to Glenn Forbes, program coordinator of Tanggol Kalikasan-Southern Luzon area and a member of the task force, the group received information that a vessel that was docked at Dalahican pier was unloading sacks of white coral sand.

When the group rushed to the place, they found that the sand cargo was already loaded in a 10-wheel Isuzu truck with license plate XHY-430.

The sacks of white coral sand were about to be sneaked out of the Dalahican Fishing Port compound when intercepted at the gate.

Rich clients

It was learned that the sand cargo was consigned to a certain Luz Almarez, residing at Purok Matahimik, Barangay Cotta, this city.

The white sand, which will be delivered to the BS Pebbles Supply along Edsa in Cubao, Quezon City, was shipped in from Masbate by one Vicente Batiancila of Barangay San Rafael, San Pascual, Masbate.

The smuggled sand has an estimated market value of P100,000.

During investigation, Almarez placed the total number of sand-filled sacks at around 500.

However, the shipment clearance listed the load as 2,000 sacks.

The consignee also presented a photocopy of an expired sand gathering permit allegedly issued by the Masbate Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office. But later in the afternoon, the consignee changed the expired permit with an updated one.

"How can they still issue a permit when the law clearly states that gathering of white coral sand is unlawful," Forbes said.

Glenn Ladiana, BFAR-Quezon examiner, attested that the cargo was white coral sand that has been declared as a restricted item under the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998.

The country's fisheries law has declared under Section 92 that it shall be "unlawful for any person or corporation to gather, sell or export white sand, silica, pebbles and other substances, which make up any marine habitat."

Those who will violate the law shall suffer a penalty of two years to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of not less than P100,000 to P500,000 or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Landscape

The substance taken from any marine habitat shall also be confiscated.

High-end landscape artists, who have the rich and famous as clients, have been known to be using the white coral sand, which never heats up, as focal point of their scenery designs.

It is also being used as a sand trap for golf bunkers.

"White sand and all types of sand for that matter is important because it is home to millions of micro-organisms and other life forms which comprise the micro-ecosystem in our coastal area. These microorganisms are very important because they serve as food to fish and other marine life," Forbes said.

He added: "This is the reason why the law prohibits the gathering of white sand. Actually, white sand grains are organisms themselves because they are composed of small organisms that create what we call corals and sand."

The white coral sand was confiscated and the truck was impounded at the provincial engineering office in Pagbilao, Quezon. A case has been filed against Almarez and Batiancila. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

INQUIRER Mindanao

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Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Feeling 'Gulliver' on Mt. Hamiguitan

MOUNTAINEERS enjoy watching at Lantawan 3 at Mt. Hamiguitan in San Isidro, Davao Oriental. RYAN LIM

By Leonard Paul Palo
San Isidro, Davao Oriental

FRIEDRICH Nietzsche once said, "Whenever I climb, I am followed by a dog called Ego." This could be every mountaineer's motivational credo as every summit or peak that he or she tries to conquer presents a unique and fairly different challenge.

In the town of San Isidro in Davao Oriental, also known as the Sunrise Capital of the Philippines, lies the 5,000-foot Mt. Hamiguitan—an enchanting crest lined with thick vegetation and some rocky terrain, which is home to the famous pygmy or bonsai forest and the 250-foot twin falls.

On June 14-17, in celebration of San Isidro's 38th founding anniversary and its yearly "Bauldayawan Festival," the local tourism office, in cooperation with the Department of Tourism regional office, the Mountaineering Federation of Southern Mindanao and the Mountaineering Federation of the Philippines Inc. (MFPI), organized the "Katkat ta sa Hamiguitan," or the journey to Hamiguitan.

The event was participated in by 84 mountaineers. Seeing it as another breathtaking opportunity to explore something new and exciting, I and a few adventurous members of the MFSM, the MFPI and the Edge Outdoor Shop in Davao, embarked on the mind-blowing trip.

Getting there

Our crew and the rest of the participants coming from Davao City reached Barangay Manikling in San Isidro in a dump truck. An air-conditioned bus normally plies the Davao-Mati route to the village, charging P164 per passenger. From there, a 5-minute *habal-habal* (local motorcycle ride) or a jeepney takes one to the poblacion, which is also referred to by the locals as "Bato-Bato."

An L-300 van plying the Davao-Sigaboy route brings one directly to the poblacion. The land trip takes as long as four hours, depending on the speed of the vehicle.

Before our ascent, the municipal government headed by Mayor Apolinar Ruelo Sr., and administrative officer Lanie Castanares welcomed the mountaineers at the San Isidro Training and Convention Center. A choir serenaded the participants, and the officials briefed the participants on what to expect during the climb.

From Sitio Tumaliti, our crew, which volunteered to be the lead pack, began our trek to the first campsite at 6 a.m. the following day, crossing rivers and following forest trails.

We took a slight detour after being told of a recent landslide along the way.

Before reaching Camp 1, we stopped at a place called "Lantawan" or view deck, a rocky section of the mountain that is rich in copper and silver deposits. The rocks glittered like gold when the rays of the sun struck them. Pitcher plants grew along the trail.

Wrong turn

When we reached the first checkpoint, called "Pulang Lupa" because of its clayish soil, we logged in with the volunteers manning the post and were told to list the names of climbers who had already passed through. Little did we know that two trails actually lay ahead of us, and we had taken a wrong turn that cost us a lot of time and energy.

The trail that we took, which was not properly blocked by the technical team who earlier assessed the area, would have taken us to the neighboring town of Governor Generoso, which was way too far from our destination. When we realized that we were lost, we decided to retrace our steps back to the checkpoint.

We reached the camp at noon and after a few minutes rest, we continued our trek to Camp 4, where we were supposed to stay for the night. After nearly two hours of hiking, we arrived at the camp, but then the whole horde of mountaineers decided to proceed to Camp 3 to see the Pygmy Forest.

Again, we prodded on. With wet clothes and muddied boots, we took an even muddier uphill trail. We passed through an area that some mountaineers christened the "Super Ferry" because one would have to hold on to some railings made out of tree branches and roots, just like one sees in an ocean liner.

After almost 10 hours of walking and dodging wayward branches and thorny bushes, we finally reached Camp 3. It was foggy and we soothed our aching and cramped muscles before calling it a night.

Like giants

The next morning, the camp was still shrouded by fog and chill. The famed 600-hectare Pygmy Forest was just a stone's throw away, so INQUIRER photographer Ryan Lim and I decided to set off early. We staked it out so that we could take better pictures when the thick mist would finally dissipate.

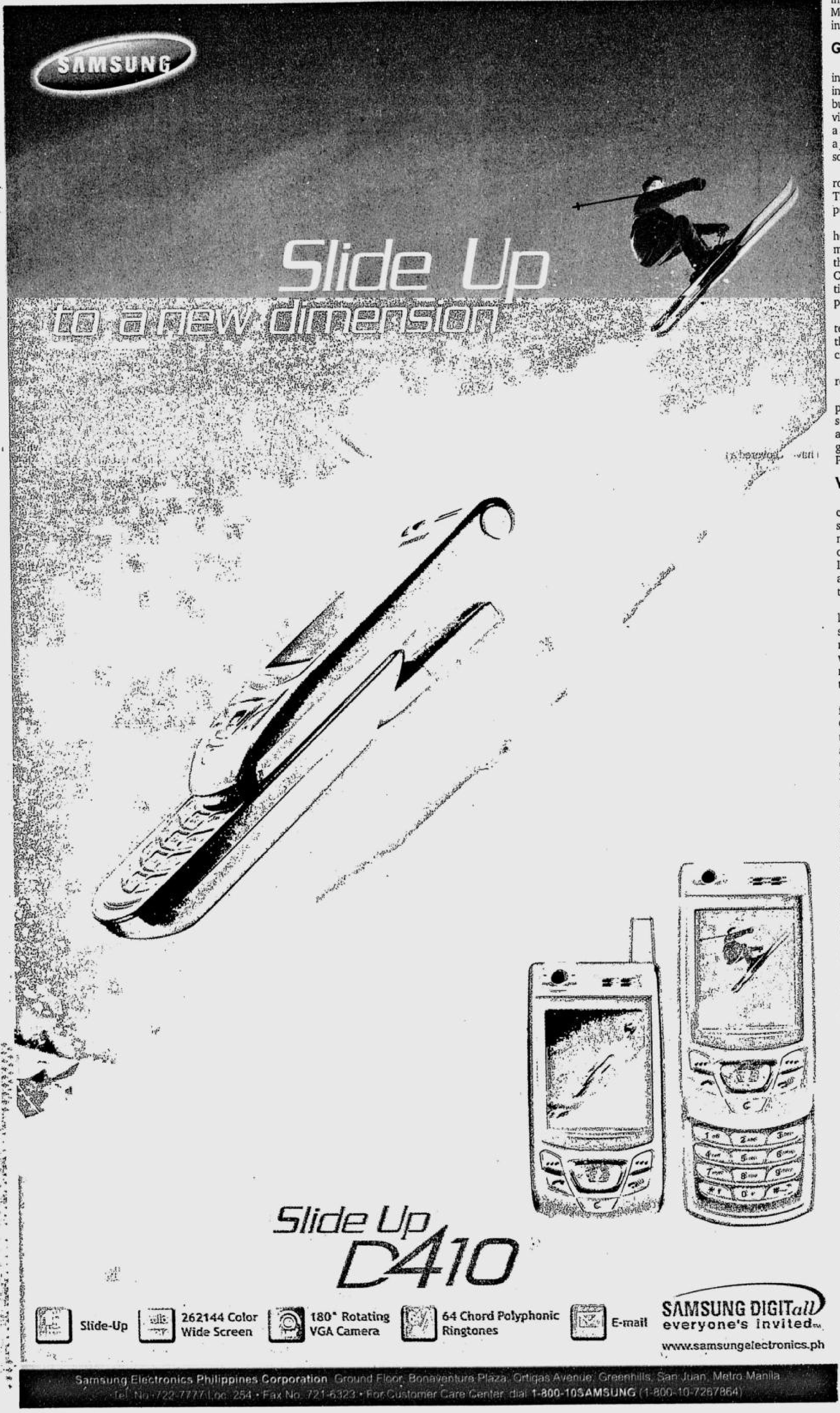
The air finally cleared and we saw ourselves trekking through pint-sized trees, some of which were only a foot high but with well developed trunks and branches. The mini-forest was believed to be centuries-old and, from a distance, one could be looking at regular trees.

We felt like giants walking through the area which had versions of the "Almaciga," "Fire Tree" and many other species, including rare orchids.

Just 30 minutes of hiking from the camp lay the 250-foot twin falls. Unfortunately, the cascading waters during our visit were not really that powerful, but it was still a sight to behold.

Aside from the Pygmy Forest and the Twin Falls, Mt. Hamiguitan is the site of the "Tinagong Dagat," (hidden sea), which is a saltwater lake in the middle of the mountains. What's so surprising about this body of water is that it is the habitat of a number of fish species. How the fish got there, nobody knows, since the lake is surrounded by tall mountains. Many believe that the species were simply a product of evolution.

The thought of seeing the undersized trees really stuck to my head. I felt like Gulliver walking in Lilliput.



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Pink Sisters go hi-tech; prayer requests online

From page A1

President and his or her entourage and security personnel are allowed entry. Outsiders may only view the sisters through a receiving area and the chapel, again behind iron grilles.

Family and close friends are allowed to visit the sisters three times a year, and written correspondence is limited to letters of condolences and Easter, Christmas and birthday greetings to family members.

Listen to God in silence

The sisters believe silence is needed in their life of solitude and contemplation.

"We need to be silent to listen to God and be quiet within so we can hear the Spirit leading us. When there is no silence, you cannot listen to God," said Sister Mary.

Silence is actually not one of the three vows—chastity, poverty and obedience—that the Pink Sisters took. Sister Mary explained that they follow a rule, not a vow, of silence.

"There is what we call sacred silence and there is ordinary silence. Sacred silence is after our last prayer, that is really very necessary," she said.

Ordinary silence, she said, is observed throughout the day. However, the silence is not broken when words are used for the sake of charity and work performance, such as practical questions and answers among the sisters about how to perform a certain task.

Houses

The Holy Spirit Sisters of Adoration have houses in Pasadena, Missouri, Nevada and Texas in the United States. In Europe, they have two in Germany and one in Poland. In South America, they are in Argentina and Brazil. They have one each in Africa, India and Indonesia.

In the Philippines, the Pink Sisters are in New Manila, Baguio, Mandaue, Davao, Aklan and Tagaytay.

Sister Mary admits that she is not fond of using technology although St. Joseph is already online. She also stressed the need for the sisters to focus on relevant information from the outside, and the Internet is one medium full of non-essential information.

Pre-selected news

Yet the sisters are always on top of political issues, although the news when they get to them have been pre-selected.

"The superior and some elder sisters read the newspaper, but we cut out what we think should not be read, like the movie pages and entertainment," said Sister Mary, adding that sometimes they end up reading a newspaper filled with holes.

St. Joseph is a subscriber to only one newspaper, the INQUIRER, courtesy of a friend.

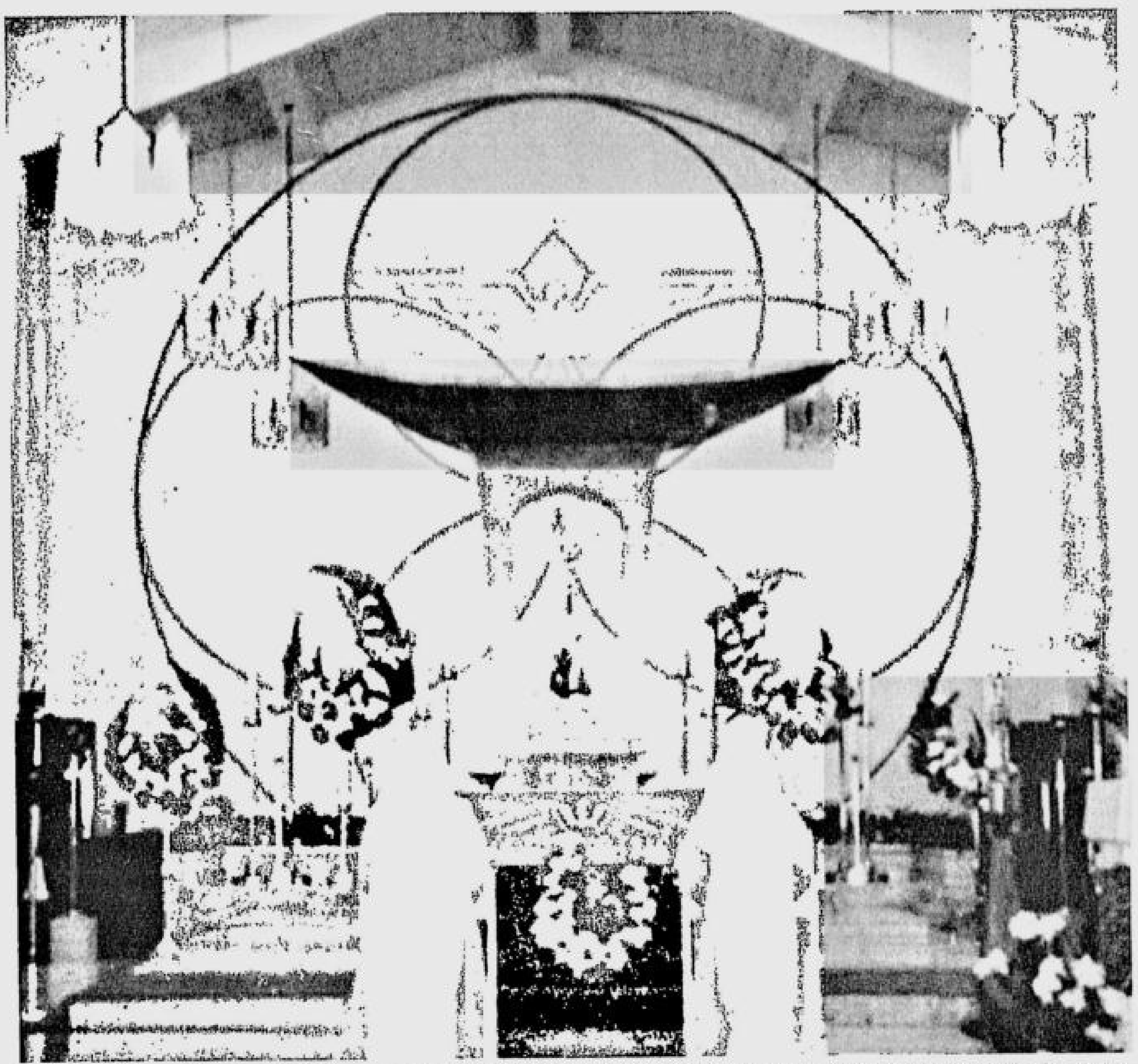
The Adoration Sisters' website adds that "the use of television is limited to circumstances of a religious nature, in keeping with the Church's norms for cloistered-contemplative religious. The daily newscast from the radio may also be taped and played when the community is assembled."

Vital issues in prayer

"That is part of our withdrawal from the world and limited correspondence," said Sister Mary. "This is the life we chose as we live through constant prayer. Through media, sometimes we announce to the sisters the vital issues they should pray for. For example, during and after the elections, we discussed the vital issues they should bring up to the Lord."

Small wonder then that all kinds of people, from paupers to presidents, seek solace and prayer requests at the houses of the Pink Sisters.

If you go there and do not see or hear them, chances are they are praying for other people, hoping they would be seen and heard by a greater audience.



24/7: That's how often the Pink Sisters pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament, praying in shifts ranging from 45 minutes to an hour. They have a long list of intercessional prayer requests from the faithful from all over the country online. PDI PHOTO

Filipino …

From page A1

in the anti-terror training here are running out of—English.

Filipino and American soldiers have admitted they're finding it hard to communicate with each other because the locals have a limited supply of English. The Filipinos have had to borrow their children's English-Filipino dictionaries so they could find the right words to say to their American counterparts.

"If we don't understand, we open the dictionary," Army Cpl. Rasel Mabiskay said in Tagalog. And even then, they still find their instructors' language difficult to understand in casual conversation.

"I often run out of English," Cpl. Novo Medallo said in jest. He said the instruction is not a problem because the Filipinos are familiar with it. But in casual conversation with their trainers, they have to grope for words.

"Sometimes, even when we want to converse, we just walk away slowly," Medallo said.

Nodding, smiling

Sgt. Joselito Doblon has a "very effective" way of dealing with the Americans. He said he just listens and pretends to understand what they're saying by nodding and smiling.

The Americans acknowledge that it is quite difficult for their Filipino counterparts to communicate in English. Maj. William Medina of the US 1st Special Forces Battalion and commander of the Security Assistance Mobile Training Team, however, said they were also doing something to remedy the situation.

He said some Filipino-American soldiers were being utilized as interpreters during exercises.

Medallo said he was hoping the six-week training would give him a broader view of the war against terrorism.

Thrill

Aside from the thrill of acquiring new knowledge, Medallo admitted he was also amazed by the seemingly endless supply of American ammunition.

"We do have the same training like this, but ammunition is (usually) limited. Here we have state-of-the art rifles and a bottomless source of bullets," Doblon agreed.

Medina said the enthusiasm showed by the trainees, even with the language barrier, was good because this could help a lot in improving their skills.

Staying alive: Angelo tells his story in his own words

From page A1

De la Cruz said that during his captivity, he was locked in a room and his only contact with his kidnappers was through a man who brought him his meals. He said he did not see his captors face to face because they were not in the room where he was held and he was always blindfolded.

How are you now?

I'm OK. I have recovered a bit.

Since you returned home to Buenavista on Tuesday (July 27), how has your daily life been here?

Visitors, those from the media come. I face them.

How did you cope while in captivity?

I managed because I have a strong faith in God. I really did not forget to ask for His help. After they took me, before I went to sleep, I called on Him. I gave thanks that I survived the day, that I may survive the next day. My constant prayer was: Save me, O Lord.

Did your family cross your mind?

At times, they (the rebels) called me by phone, or they told me that they saw the video footage of my family on television. "So you still have small children," that's what they told me.

What did you tell them?

I told them yes, I have small children and a few big ones.

Why me?

Did you come to a point when you broke into tears?

Of course. It was so difficult not to cry. Sometimes, I asked why I was in that situation. At times, I was in tears. Anyone who underwent what I went through would also feel the same way.

On Wednesday (July 28), the Philippine government protested the remarks of Australian officials about the country's alleged softening stance in the fight against terrorism, that your life was given priority. In your view, is it right that our government is criticized for pulling out the troops in Iraq in order to save you before anything else?

I don't know anything about that. What I know is that our government rescued me.

Can you recall what your captors did to you?

They treated me well. It's all that I could say of them.

In what part of the Iraqi border were you taken on July 4?

I don't remember because all I know is that I left and drove my truck (from Saudi Arabia) on July 4.

What happened next?

The rebels told me to park my truck. Then they took me. They pushed me into their car.

'Pray, Angelo'

Did they fire their guns?

No.

They just took you away?

(Nods)

Did your abductors ever ask if you are a Filipino?

They know I am a Filipino because we dressed differently from them.

What did they do to you next?

They took me but I don't remember where because I was blindfolded.

Then?

This is all I could remember, the days when they talked to me. I was allowed to eat. They treated me well.

Did they give you time to pray?

Yes. They themselves told me to pray.

Food and water

Did they know you are a Catholic?

They knew because they asked me if I was a Catholic or a Muslim. I told them I was Catholic. "Christian," they said.

Were you really taken to the place where you were to be beheaded?

What I know is that I was transferred because they took me to one room and then they moved me to another room where there is a bed. It's just like that.

Was the room near?

I don't know. My eyes were always blindfolded. Most of the time it was dark because my eyes were always covered.

You had someone to talk to in that room?

None, only when someone brought in food. I was asked if I was hungry. (That man usually told me), "I brought you food. I brought you water." That's all.

Was there a point where you begged for your life?

None.

Buenavista on TV

How did you know that President Macapagal-Arroyo, your provincemate, was helping to get you released?

My captors were the ones who told me.

Did your captors really check your neck to see where they could strike the sword?

No, they didn't do that. I did not see them do that to me. They treated me well because our government heeded their demand and they saw our soldiers leaving for home.

What was their reaction after seeing the video footage of your Buenavista villagemates immersed in prayer for your safety?

I don't know because I did not see my captors face to face. And there was no television set in the room. They just told me what they saw on television—that they saw my family, that I was in the news.

MARANGAL NA BUHAY

NEW HAIRCUT: Angelo de la Cruz recounts to the INQUIRER what it was like to be in captivity in Iraq for 17 days, but without elaboration being a man of few words. He finally had a haircut when the INQUIRER interviewed him on Thursday in his hometown of Buenavista, Mexico, Pampanga. PDI PHOTO

Have you asked the President to look after the welfare of overseas Filipino workers, like you, who are in the Middle East?

I said, "Ma'am, we need to act for their safety." Other than that, I didn't say anything because I was still recovering.

Do you feel like a celebrity now?

What I'm feeling is that I am happy because I am back in my own country.

Do you want to believe you're a hero in this case?

I am an ordinary person. What I wish, and I have been telling this to the media, is that I can go back to a peaceful life, to return to a normal life. I really am an ordinary person, as ordinary as my place is.

What are your plans now?

If I am free from all the attention, I would like to work again. I have to work. Or else, what will happen to my family?

No thanks

Will you still work in Iraq?

I don't know. Anyone who underwent the same experience and is asked if he is going to work again abroad, it would be natural if they say that they don't have an answer yet.

You finally found time to get a haircut.

(Laughs) I don't really grow my hair long. When your hair is long you're like a woman.

When your captors set you free, did they tell you anything?

None. All that they told me was to get out of the car.

Did you thank them?

No. They ordered me to get down because we were near the embassy (of the United Arab Emirates in Baghdad). I got down and they were gone. It was over.

How did you feel at that point?

I was both happy and sad. For all I know, I might be on television or I might be seen by other people. With the protection of God, nobody saw me.

Do you have any guilt feelings when you're blamed for the criticism that the government is getting?

I (am thankful) that I was given a second life. I am an ordinary person, I just want to return to my simple life. I also asked the media to faithfully report my statements, that they don't add anything to what I say. That's all I ask.

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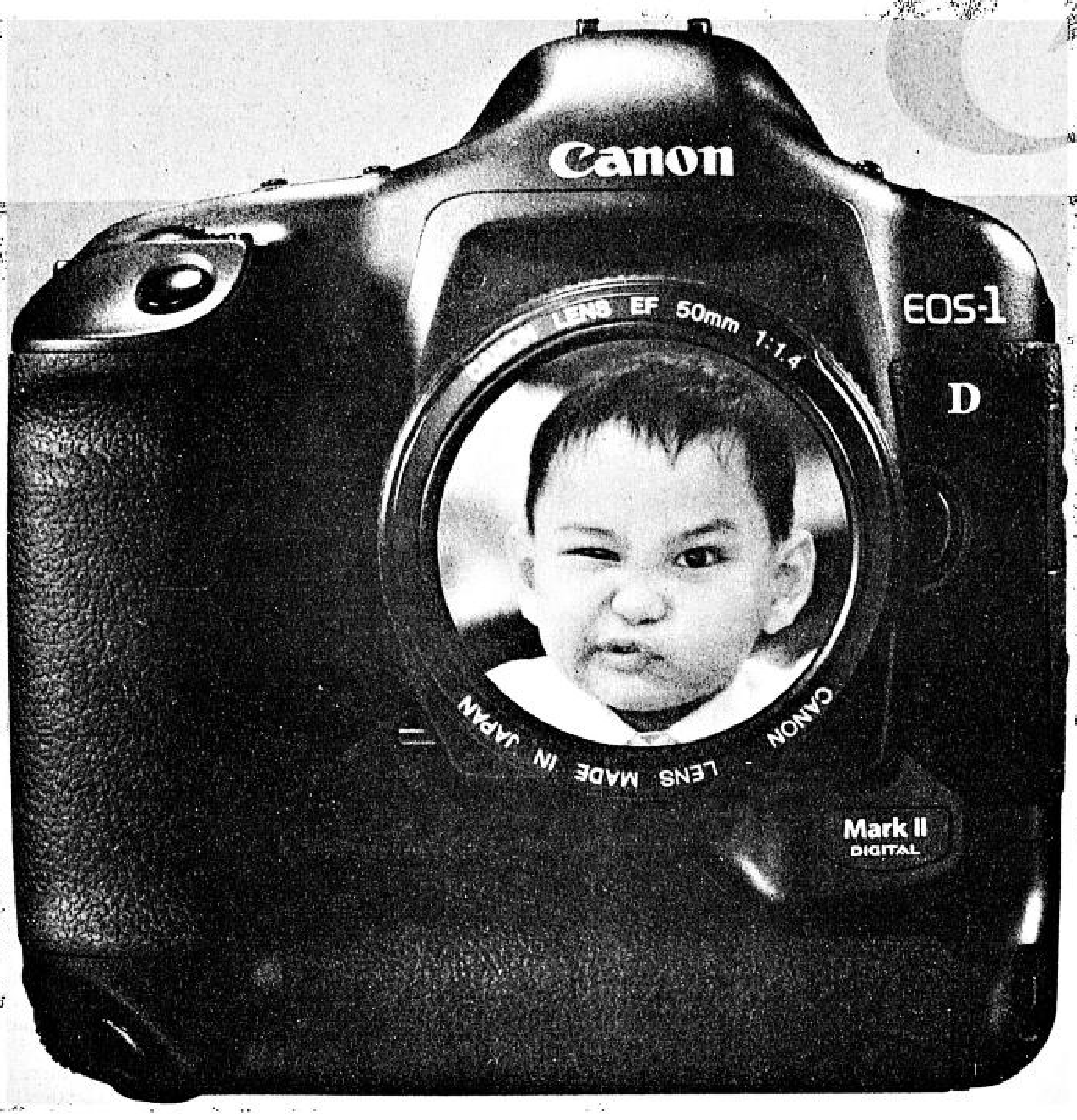

Canon candid wedding photo contest

in cooperation with

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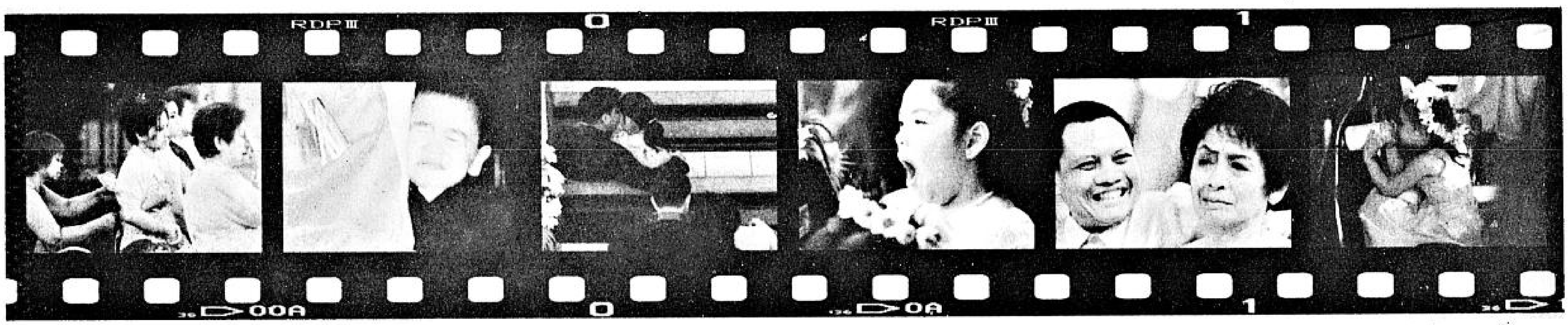

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CONTEST MECHANICS:

1. The contest is open to all professional and amateur Filipino photographers.
2. The focus of the contest is candid wedding photos. Entries should capture sidelights and unguarded moments of a Filipino wedding, the laughter and tears that make the event special and unique .
3. Entries should cover an actual wedding.
4. Contestants can use either digital or conventional film camera.
5. A participant can submit a maximum of five entries. Photos should be printed in 8x10 inches, without borders, unmounted. No digital enhancement or desktop printout will be allowed.
6. The original negative and data file should be submitted by winning entries.
7. An entry should have a title. The participant must put his/ her complete name, address, contact information, and signature on the back of the photo.
8. The participant retains the copyright of the entry.
9. Each entry should be put in a brown envelope.
10. The contest is from June 30, 2004 to November 19, 2004.
11. Entries should be submitted to the Philippine Daily Inquirer (c/o Marketing department-Hazel Soriaga, Ching dela Cruz), Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City.
12. Entry must be exclusive to the contest, unpublished and must not have been submitted to other contests.
13. Criteria: Relevance to the theme (30%), composition (30%), and creativity (40%).
14. Winners will be notified through phone and mail. Their names will also be published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
15. Prizes can be claimed at the Philippine Daily Inquirer within (60) days from receipt of notification.
16. Winning entries will be displayed during the bridal fair, "Wedding March at NBC Tent", presented by PDI and cbv7 Media master, on January 22-23, 2005.
17. Winners must present 3 valid I.Ds.
18. The decision of the board of judges is final.
19. Employees of Canon Phils., PDI, cbv7 Media master, and their advertising agency, dealers and participating outlets, and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity, are disqualified.
20. Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. and PDI reserve the right to publish or display the entries.

WEDDING MARCH at the NBC Tent
January 22-23,2005
Candid Wedding Photo Contest is presented by Canon Philippines in cooperation with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and cbv7 Media master

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Children's choir bags gold in German tilt

By Jocelyn R. Uy

EVERY choir may have its own success story, but for this group, victory definitely didn't come with age and popularity.

Last July 12, the Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir, composed of chorale members from Quezon City and San Juan, ran off with the gold medal in the Music of the Religions category at the recently concluded Choir Olympics held in Bremen, Germany, besting other tested groups with adult memberships.

"We hadn't participated in any competition, not even here. It's a big feat for a small group," said Walter Cheng, executive director of the Ave Maria Children's Choir Foundation.

The Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir, a merger of the 5-year-old Hail Mary Children's Choir of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Cubao and the 2-year-old Mary the Queen Children's Choir in Greenhills, was formed in May 2003 in answer to the call of the latter's parish priest, Fr. Ben Sim, S.J., for a voluntary liturgical choir.

The group then became the backyard choir of the two parishes, said lawyer Ulan Sarmiento, chairman and president of Ave Maria Foundation.

Sarmiento and his wife, Dina, who accompanied the children to Germany with choirmasters Theresa Vizconde and Jude Roldan, led pioneering efforts to put up the two choirs.

The children were recruited through announcements made during Sunday Masses and posters inviting interested students with ages ranging from 7 to 17 years old to join the choir.

KASSE
15
HAIL MARY THE QUEEN
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
PHILIPPINE DELEGATES TO:
3rd CHOIR OLYMPICS
BREMEN, GERMANY
JULY 8-18, 2004
Thanks to:
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MARY'S PRIDE. Members of the Hail Mary the Queen choir pose outside the venue of the 3rd Choir Olympics in Bremen, Germany. The children's choral bested adult choirs from all over the world to win the gold in the Music of the Religions category.

Of the 80 who auditioned in Greenhills and 35 in Cubao, 58 boys and girls from 13 different schools in Metro Manila were chosen. The students come from the following schools: Immaculate Conception Academy, Xavier School, OB Montesorri, Greenhills, Miriam High School, St. Paul's College-Pasig, University of Sto. Tomas, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School-Cubao, Cubao Elementary School, St. John School, Dominican College, Ateneo de Manila Grade School, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, and AMA Computer University-San Juan.

The average age of the singing group is 13.

Although the response was overwhelming, Dina said many dropped out because the rehearsals were getting in the way of their other activities. Some had difficulty in adjusting to the rigid training.

"The choir wasn't really meant for competitions. We decided to participate in the Choir Olympics only to encourage the children to do their best and to provide them with an opportunity that would perfect their service to God," Sarmiento said.

Thirty of the 58 qualified for the competition, but because the foundation had a shoestring budget, and since some of the children came from families of modest means, only 26 (22 girls and four boys) were able to join the Bremen-bound entourage.

The children started preparing for the competition as early as July 2003, when the choir formalized their participation in the Olympics.

To add to their piggy bank, the choir held two major concerts, sang Christmas carols, and performed in church weddings, according to Angie Yu, whose daughter Abby, 15, is a choir member.

"The sponsors didn't come at one time so the children had to work too," she said with a laugh.

Israel, the defending champion in the Music of the Religions category, together with two choirs from South Korea and one from Jamaica, which had already won the gold in other categories, were automatically qualified for the final round. The inexperienced Filipino choir, on the other hand, had to compete with Germany in the pre-qualifying round.

But the choir was given a gold rating, beating Germany who got a silver.

In the final round, with their rendition of "Hallelujah," "Umaw-it Kang Masaya," "Hosanna" and "Ampeo Shelo He-O," the plucky Filipino youngsters defeated Li-Ron, the choir from Israel.

"We didn't expect it," an elated Sarmiento said. "We were pitted against very good choirs like Israel, who was the defending champion in the category," Sarmiento said.

Prevailing in an adult-dominated category with 40 to 60 singers was also a major achievement for the children's choir.

The choir also joined two other categories: the Children's Choir and Folklore, where they got a silver.

"These children did not join the choir because they expected allowances or scholarships to be offered. They really sing out of devotion," said Sarmiento.

But for Abby and the rest of the choir members, their victory was the power of prayer put to test.

"We are only a parish choir and we were not meant to compete. But our victory was in God's plan," she said.

The next Choir Olympics would be held in Xiamen, China in 2006.

"We will definitely be there to defend our title," Sarmiento said.

Leading his barangay was a dream twice stolen for ex-cop

By Luige del Puerto

A HAIL of bullets stopped retired SPO4 Bienvenido Ople from living his noble dream.

Ople, 57, was on his way to get the court order that would have placed him at the post of chairman of Barangay Ugong in Pasig City when two men gunned him down along with brother-in-law Virgilio Santos.

His driver, Antonio Macabangon, was wounded.

Earlier, on July 22, Judge Julia Reyes of the Pasig Metropolitan Trial Court ruled on the election protest Ople had filed, and declared him winner of the 2002 barangay polls in Ugong.

The judge also annulled the proclamation of current village chair Arnaldo S. Legaspi.

But Ople's family feels that the victory that was stolen from him was made more painful when he was murdered Friday morning at the foot of the Sandoval Bridge that crosses the Marikina River from Barangay Ugong to Barangay Rosario in Pasig.

Ople's wife, Effe, had no doubt that the killing was a case of local politics gone awry.

"It's politics," she told the INQUIRER inside their cramped, middle-class apartment on Batuhan Street.

A wake for Ople and Santos has been held on the street outside their house, some 50 meters from the barangay hall where the retired cop would have held office.

Effe said her husband had no inkling of the ambush. He was a policeman all his life and she assumed he could smell danger from afar.

She was wrong.

And so it came as a shock for the family to learn of the ambush.

According to Effe, Ople had always been drawn to public service.

Even when he was still a policeman, residents would come to their house for help. And he could not refuse them.

So, it came as no surprise to the family that Ople chose to retire early to run for barangay chair.

But after the balloting, Ople only came in fourth and filed a case for electoral fraud.

A recount of the ballots showed that Ople got 1,079 votes, while Legaspi took in only 713.

Learning of the court decision, Legaspi said he already bade goodbye to his constituents and packed up his things.

"I was ready to leave," Legaspi told the INQUIRER.

The chair said the killing was most unfortunate, adding that "My conscience is clear."

"To (Ople's) family, I extend my condolences. But I have nothing to do with it," he said.

Salvage victim actor's 'nephew'

THE BODY of the alleged summary execution victim found in Calamba City has been identified as Gilbert Garcia, allegedly a nephew of actor-director Eddie Garcia, police said yesterday.

Supt. Edmund Zaide, city police chief, said Santiago Garcia of Sta. Ana, Manila, came to his office Friday night to claim the body, whom the latter identified as that of his son, Gilbert, 33.

Santiago reportedly said that he was a younger brother of the multi-awarded actor and director.

The INQUIRER called up Garcia to verify Santiago's claims but his cellular phone was turned off.

Request to see body

Santiago arrived at the police station at about 9 p.m. and asked if he could see the body that police discovered inside a Mitsubishi L300 van (XGL 397) parked along a deserted road in Calamba Hills 2 Subdivision in Barangay Barandal before dawn Friday.

A Makati policeman, three Pasay lawmen and a civilian have been arrested after they were caught dumping the body in Calamba.

Investigators have traced the owner of the van to one Pablo Ang of Libertad Street, Pasay City.

Police said Santiago learned of the incident when he saw it on the news.

At that point, the father had a feeling that the body could be that of his son because Gilbert had been missing for days, Zaide told the INQUIRER.

Also, friends of the victim had told Santiago that a group of men picked up his son on the evening of July 27, Zaide said.

The Crime Laboratory in Camp Vicente Lim has declared that Gilbert died of "asphyxia by strangulation." ***Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

METROBRIEFS

'Plastics King' sued

BUSINESSMAN William Gatchalian and five others have been charged for their alleged failure to remit the contribution of their employees to the Social Security System (SSS). Gatchalian, president of the Plastic City Corp.; Bee Huan Gatchalian, Felino Canio, Leoncio Rosales, Salvador Olarte and Lourdes Ngo were charged before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court. Records showed that Plastic City did not remit its employees' SSS contributions for the period of January 2002 to May 2002 worth P122,230.00. The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach the respondents for comment. ***Tina G. Santos***

'Not guilty'

THE ALLEGED killer of entertainment writer and publicist Eli Formaran has pleaded not guilty to murder and theft charges filed against him before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court. Eric Alba, alias Eric Palanca, entered the plea assisted by his legal counsel Rustico Gagate. ***Tina G. Santos***

Help for newsman

THE FAMILY of veteran newsman Joven Custodio, formerly of the Manila Times and Times Journal, is requesting his friends and colleagues for any form of help after an angiogram showed that he would have to undergo a triple bypass procedure. They may get in touch with his daughter Gilda, or sons Kit and Jun at 822-9284, 521-8450 connect to room 724, or at mobile phone numbers 0917-8364613; 0917-6274779; and 0921-5955461.

Think twice before buying cheap goods, cops warn

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

BUYING cheap goods may not always prove to be a wise choice. For all you know, the products you are buying could be stolen goods.

Police arrested a Chinese trader and his wife in Valenzuela City the other day after car tires reported stolen three weeks ago were traced to their store.

But the suspects told the INQUIRER they did not know the tires were stolen items.

The Northern Police District investigation division recovered 77 Simex and South Ocean tires from the warehouse of trader Kenny Sy and his wife, Maria Cecilia, in Barangay Arkong Bato, Valenzuela City, the other day.

Police also invited for questioning Chinese nationals Cimpson Lao and Alex Chua Tang. Sy told the police he bought the tires from the two.

On July 9, a delivery van of Trade-in Transnational Distribution Express, the only authorized distributor of Simex and South Ocean tires in the metropolis, lost more than P500,000 worth of tires to robbers.

Company president James Ylanan went to the police for help after he received information that some of their missing tires were in Sy's store. Police later confiscated 21 tires there. Sy also turned over another 56 tires in his warehouse.

DIRECTOR Ricardo de Leon inspects car parts sold at a store on Banawe Street in Quezon City. Car parts and accessories stripped from stolen vehicles have turned up in many surplus shops in the metropolis. RUDY ESPERAS

Sy said Lao was one of his regular customers, and that he had paid Lao more than P200,000 for 200 tires, not knowing these were stolen goods. Lao had denied the claim.

Charges of violating the anti-fencing law would be filed against the suspects.

Northern Police District Director Marcelino Franco said that most often, buyers know they are dealing with syndicates dealing with hijacked or stolen goods.

Police offered several ways to know if products sold to you are actually stolen items:

1. The price is very cheap compared to market prices, the supplier is not someone you know well, and it is the supplier's first time to transact business or sell that type of product.

2. The supplier is not in any way affiliated with the authorized distributor of the product.

3. The supplier does not have official or authorized receipts.

Franco also advised dealers to check the documents of the products and the distributor's license first to find out if the supplier is operating legally.

Violating the Anti-Fencing Law would mean up to 20 years in jail, depending on the value of the stolen items, Franco said.

Entrepreneurship for Fresh Grads: The Antidote to Joblessness

An attentive crowd attended the seminar held by the SMART Entreprenuerial Program at the University of Makati.

SMART Entrepreneurial Program Kicks Off at the University of Makati

SMART Communications now brings its SMART Entrepreneurial Program (SEP) to schools nationwide. SMART launched the SMART Entrepreneurial Program first at the University of Makati to give lectures and seminars to both prospective graduates and recent college graduates. This nationwide lecture series is meant to educate as well as inform young individuals of opportunities as wireless entrepreneurs, as well as to consider other possible career avenues.

A Special Mission for Makati Residents

Long considered the financial hub of the Philippines, Makati has become a destination for thousands upon thousands of Filipinos who join the workforce daily. Ironically, this may sometimes leave Makati residents displaced for employment in their own city. The local government sought to address this problem with the establishment of the University of Makati at the National Road on Fort Bonifacio.

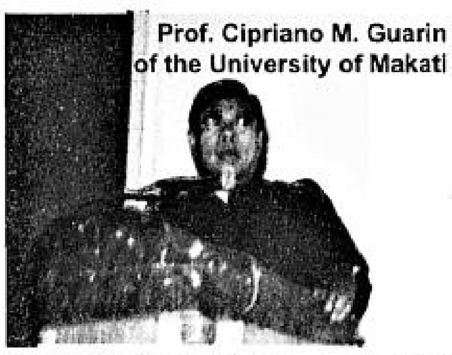
According to Prof. Cipriano M. Guarin, the school's Director of the Student Services Center, SMART's endeavor was a much-needed shot in the arm for the school. "The University of Makati is globally competitive," said Prof. Guarin, "and with the SEP, this is a huge opportunity SMART is giving our graduates and Makati residents to consider job alternatives here in the Philippines." He added that, "this is the first of its kind for our university, where a company actually came to us in order to help our graduates for their future."

Very Timely and Responsive

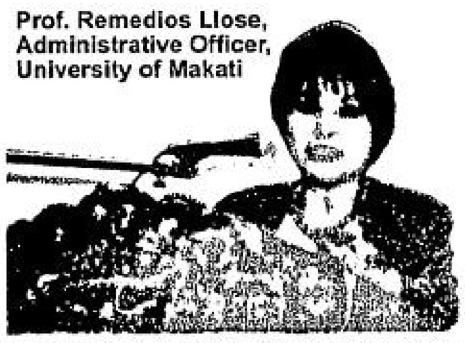
The University of Makati prides itself on preparing its students for the realities of the job market. They in fact hold talks that focus on the job market, the students' self image, developing leadership skills, and fostering winning personalities. Thanks to the SMART Entrepreneurial Program, the University of Makati has been able to give hope as well as new channels for their graduates to consider in the Filipino workplace.

It's not just about the innovations we bring...

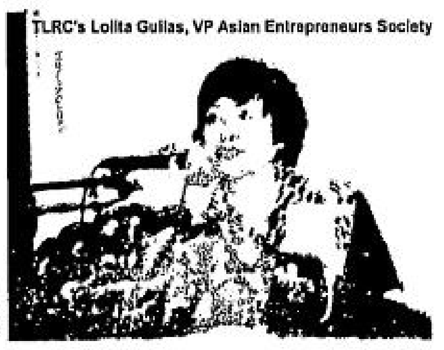
It's about the opportunities we provide.



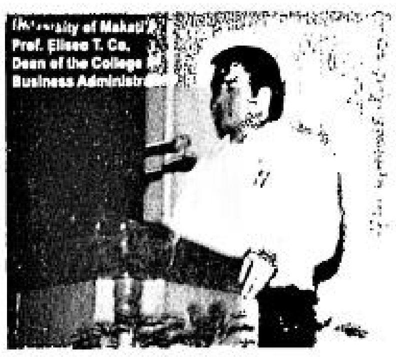
Prof. Cipriano M. Guarin of the University of Makati



Prof. Remedios Llose, Administrative Officer, University of Makati



TLRC's Lolita Gulias, VP Asian Entrepreneurs Society



University of Makati
Prof. Eliseo T. Co,
Dean of the College
Business Administr

"Entrepreneurship provides more opportunities for the 385,000 new graduates."
-- SMART's Boy Martirez challenges students to be entrepreneurs

MODULE 1	MODULE 2	MODULE 3
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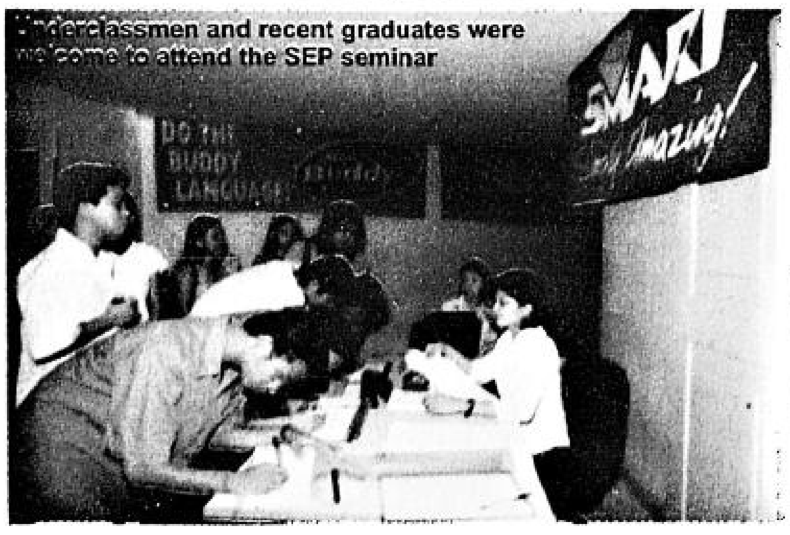
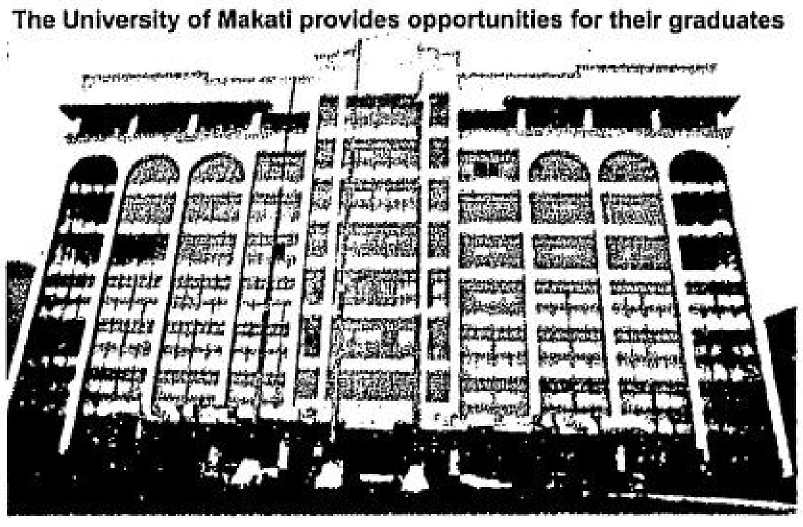


Underclassmen and recent graduates were welcome to attend the SEP seminar



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Manny on Entrepreneurship

"We should not be afraid to set goals, take risks, hold on to our convictions, and build an arsenal of small successes -- even if that means an occasional failure. Your past successes should convince you that it is possible to succeed in the future."

-- Manuel V. Pangilinan,
PLDT and SMART Chairman

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SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Mangulat

BOXING: Morales vs Hernandez; 10 a.m.; RPN 9 and Solar Sports—Erik Morales faces another tough challenger.

BASKETBALL: NBA Summer League-Jazz vs Hawks; 2:30 p.m. (r-12:30 a.m.); Solar Sports—Utah takes on Atlanta.

Usab World Tour-USA vs Puerto Rico; 7 p.m.; IBC 13—The US Olympic Team takes on Puerto Rico in this warm-up for Athens.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

TENORIO (6) and Doug Kramer of Ateneo clamp down on Karl Bono (middle) of Adamson. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Eagles claw Falcons; Tams tame Bulldogs

By Jasmine W. Payo

ATENEO captain Larry Fonacier may be out for the rest of the season, but he became an inspiration for point guard LA Tenorio, whose three-pointer with 4.3 seconds remaining lifted the Eagles past the Adamson Falcons, 58-55, in the 67th UAAP varsity basketball tournament yesterday at the Philsports Arena.

"I was only thinking of Larry when I made the shot. That one was for Larry," said the 5-foot-7 Tenorio, the smallest man on the court who played big in a game where the Eagles trailed for the first three quarters.

GAMES TODAY (Philsports Arena)
11:30 a.m.—UST vs Adamson (Jrs)
*2 p.m.—UE vs UST (Srs)
*4 p.m.—La Salle vs UP (Srs)
6 p.m.—UE vs La Salle (Jrs)
*Live on Studio 23

"LA is really capable of making plays like that. He has a big heart. *Nanggigil kami* (we were overeager) at first because we wanted to dedicate the rest of our games to Larry," said coach Sandy Arespacochaga after the Eagles stayed as the only unbeaten squad with a 5-0 slate.

The slam-dunking JC Intal, who scored all of his 13 points in the second half, led the Eagles out of a 20-point hole in the second quarter. His jam midway in the fourth period put Ateneo at the helm for the first time, 49-47.

Tenorio finished with 14 points, while Magnum Membrere scored 13, including two triples in their third-quarter run.

The Eagles had the No. 14 badge sewn on their jerseys in honor of Fonacier, who will miss the rest of the season because of a knee injury.

The win came on the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Ateneo's patron saint.

Earlier, Far Eastern's Don Yabut split his freethrows with no time left as the defending champion Tamaraws barely escaped the National University Bulldogs, 86-85, in overtime.

Yabut had earlier taken a foul from Bulldogs rookie Edwin Asoro as they battled for a rebound after NU's Rey Mendoza missed a layup in the dying seconds. Mendoza also blew two freethrows with 7.1 seconds remaining.

FEU took solo second at 4-1, while Adamson

EAGLES/ A26

Buhain lauds POC, Philsoc for support

PHILIPPINE Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain yesterday lauded the Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee for helping keep the country's SEA Games plans on track.

Buhain yesterday thanked POC president Celso Dayrit and members of the Philsoc for their cooperation in the preparations for the 23rd edition of the biennial sports event the country will again host after 14 years.

"We would like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Dayrit, as well as to the members of the Philsoc and POC for their cooperation and hospitality," said Buhain. "We in the government side, together with (Tourism) Secretary Obet Pagdanganan, welcome this sign of unity that will not only help ensure the success of the country's hosting of the SEA Games but also further the development of local sports.

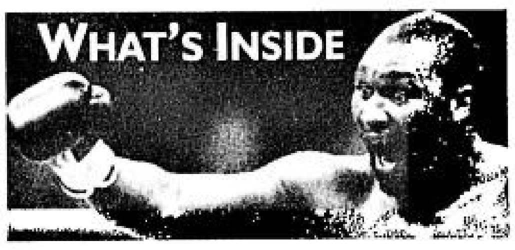
"The SEA Games is a very large undertaking for the government, being part of our effort to show the best side of the Philippines. We feel it is our obligation, along with the POC, to the Filipino people to ensure its success," said Buhain.

Buhain estimated that the country would need to win about 120 gold medals to grab the overall championship in 2005 and the PSC is encouraging athletes to surpass the 91 gold medals won in 1991, when the country finished second to Indonesia. That was also the last time the Philippines hosted the SEA Games.

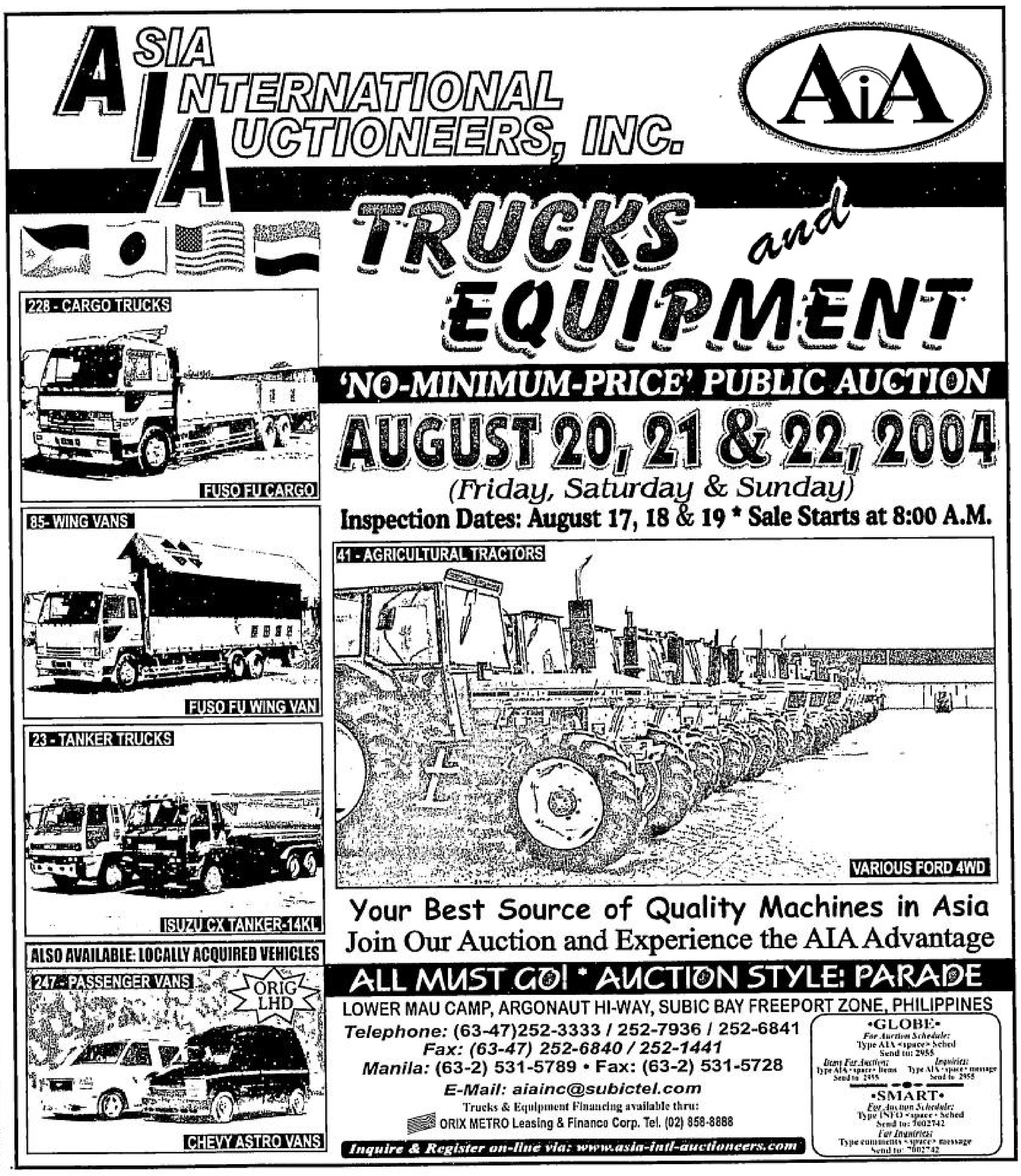
"We have seen the Philippines nearly topple then perennial champion Indonesia. It is also likely that the Philippines would be able to achieve what it nearly did that year, and with the help of the First Family and the private sector, we will invest in our athletes to be able to do it," he said.

Buhain was the most bemedaled athlete in 1991 with six swimming golds. He was also adjudged Most Outstanding Athlete, and named Athlete of the Year by the prestigious Philippine Sportswriters Association.

The PSC has actually proposed the creation of a specific fund as early as 2002 to augment the SEA Games budget allocation to include repair and refurbishment of 15 venues, equipment and supplies, operational expenses, and information technology requirements with an estimate of P506 million in expenses for the meet.



WHAT'S INSIDE
■ Williams pummels Tyson /A27
■ Casas captures Super Golf Tour /A26
■ Tabuena up by 2; Ardina holds 2nd /A30



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Casas wraps up Super Golf Tour, bags ₱500,000

By Musong R. Castillo

CAGAYAN DE ORO—Three months ago, Necias Casas called son Cassius from Davao, telling him, among others, to continue to strive.

On Friday, the old man spent P400 for a five-hour bus ride to Bukidnon to find out if Cassius had heeded his advice.

Despite being under siege all round long, Cassius did not disappoint his father, carving out a 6-under-par 66 in spectacular style at the long Pueblo de Oro course yesterday to run away with the Strong Republic Nautical Highway Super Golf Tour title.

Cassius engaged Antonio Lascuña and Benjie Magada in a thrilling final-round shoot-out and then snuffed out the challenge with an eagle on No. 17 for a four-shot win worth P500,000.

Necias, who retired from pro golf without ever tasting a win, willed his 70-year-old legs to walk the final 36 holes of the event to watch his son, starting with the Del Monte leg in Bukidnon on Friday where Cassius shot a 69 to take a two-stroke lead into yesterday's round.

Cassius finished with a 12-under 418 after rounds at Villamor, Club Malarayat, Fairways and Blue Water, Marapara, Del Monte and Pueblo de Oro. He finished with two eagles, 24 birdies, 66 pars and 16 bogeys over 108 holes that made up the toughest challenge in professional golf.

Lascuña stuck a pitching wedge to within three feet for birdie on the final hole for a 68 to nip Magada for second worth P250,000. Magada, who tied with Lascuña when Cassius last won in The Country Club Invitational last year, settled for the P180,000 third placer's purse with a 423 total also after a 68.

"I came here on my own because Marina (Cassius' mother) told me to come. I did not tell Cassius that I was coming," said Necias in Filipino. "I called him sometime ago, telling him to not let go and work his way back up again."

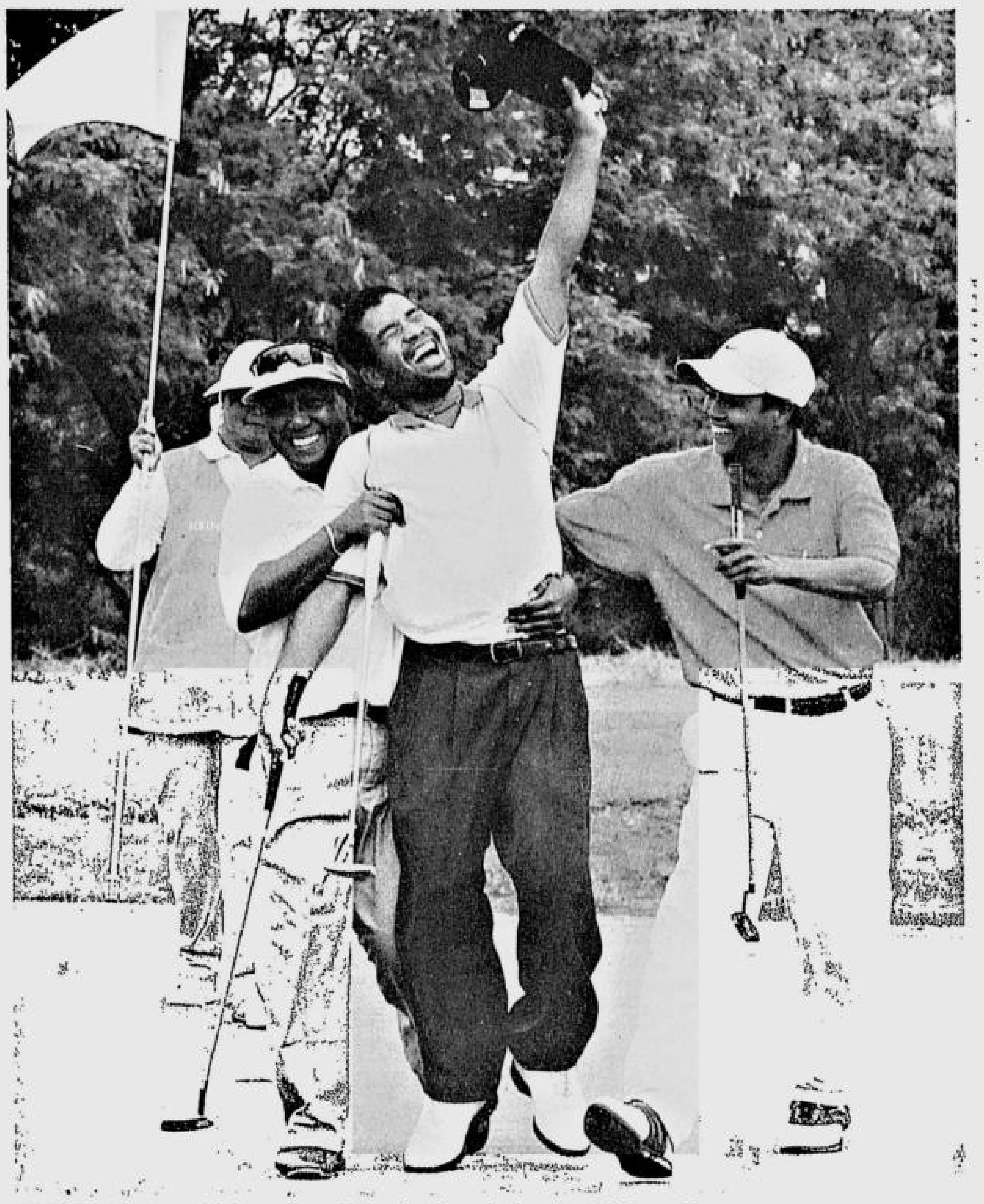
"It was that call which made me re-dedicate myself to the game," Cassius, eyes welling with tears, later said in Filipino. "This is very special, for not only did I win again after more than a year, but my father was here to see it all."

"Whatever success I have had and will continue to have, I owe all to him. He introduced me to the sport at a very young age and has been behind me all these years," added the Southwoods bet.

Cassius started the final round hot, duplicating his 32 in Del Monte's first nine to keep his pursuers at bay. But Casas bogeyed the par-3 13th, and a Lascuña birdie on the 14th pruned the gap to three. After a huge drive on No. 17, Casas reached the 568-yard par-5 hole with a six-iron second shot that landed just 10 feet past the flag and he knocked in the eagle to put the tournament to bed.

Richard Sinfuego assembled a 68 and rallied to finish fourth at 428, while Carito Villaroman checked in fifth best at 431.

Elmer Salvador had a 70, Mars Pucay a 73 and Robert Pactolerin a 74 to finish tied for sixth with 432 totals worth P65,000 each.



CASAS celebrates with Lascuña and Magada after winning the Golf Super Tour. JESS YUSON

Walkout mars NCFP election

THE NATIONAL Chess Federation of the Philippines pushed through with its annual election yesterday despite a walkout by NCFP officials and players led by Grandmasters Joey Antonio, Nelson Mariano II and International Master Chito Garma.

"This is a bogus election. There obviously was no quorum. Many procedures were violated," said NCFP treasurer Constancio Marcaida, who also walked out of the election at the Capitol Hills Golf and Country Clubhouse in Quezon City.

The votes were being counted as of press time according to NCFP secretary general Sammy Estimo, who presided over the elections, to the dismay of Antonio and Co., based on what he said were instructions from NCFP president Mat Defensor.

The top 15 directors among the candidates will later choose the new officers of the NCFP.

Estimo also announced before the election that Defensor had also designated him as membership committee chair, a task earlier assigned to Quirino Sagario. He claimed that "61 local chess clubs" were officially registered and had paid their dues to be able to vote in the NCFP polls, but was unable to produce the documents certifying their membership when asked by Joe Aspiras, a NCFP charter member. "They are all genuine. The documents are at the NCFP office," was all that Estimo could say. But Gerry Rellirioza, whose club has 238 members, said it was not possible that his group could vote.

BIG UPSET. Marlon Stockinger of Birel-Fila (center) pulled big upset over favorites in the Roatx Max Junior Class recently in the fourth leg of the 2004 Shell-PCSO Superkarting Series sponsored by Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office through Hon. Rosario Uriarte, Bridgestone, Aviva Insurance, Eastway Motorcycle Racing and Denso Iridium Power at the Kart Trak located at the Spaceport Zone of the Enchanted Kingdom. Mark Bumgarner of M&M Racing (left) took the runner-up finish while frontrunning Matteo Guidicelli (right) of the Cebu Racing Group wound up third.

Korea deals RP-Cebuana 5th loss

CHINESE-TAIPEI—RP-Cebuana Lhuillier yielded to sweet-shooting South Korea, 83-65, Friday as its woes continued in the Jones Cup basketball tournament here.

It was the Filipinos' fifth loss against a lone win in the nine-nation field.

RP Cebuana Lhuillier, with team manager Jean Henri Lhuillier cheering the boys from the sides, crept to within four points late in the second quarter, 29-33, but South Korea regained its bearing to take a 45-33 halftime lead.

It was in the third quarter when the issue was practically decided as the Koreans blanked the Filipinos for more than seven minutes and breezed to a 61-37 spread run. Ricky Calimag broke the ice for the Nationals with a pair of freethrows before Dennis Madrid scored RP-Cebuana Lhuillier's first field goal, 1:31 left in the third quarter.

RP-Cebuana Lhuillier will play against Canada on Saturday before winding up its experience-gaining stint here against Qatar.

The Koreans made close to 50 percent of their shots from the field, had more assists, 16-11, and forced the Filipinos into 20 turnovers. Surprisingly, the Filipinos had a slight edge in rebounding, 38-35.

"I can take losses as long as I see the boys fight but then what we are seeing here really emphasizes how far we have lagged behind the likes of Korea and now even Chinese Taipei. But this is exactly what we are trying to address by putting in place this long-term program. It cannot be a quick fix solution for this problem and people should appreciate the efforts we are putting in addressing the problem instead maybe of criticizing," said Lhuillier.

NBA meet for school children opens

THE NATIONAL Basketball Association (NBA) and Pediatrica, Inc., makers of Growee Vitamins, have organized the first-ever Jr. NBA and Jr. WNBA 3-on-3 basketball tournament called "The Great Student Shoot-out" in the Philippines.

The competition, scheduled from Aug. 1 to Sept. 5, is open to school children from Grade 4 up to Grade 7. Participating teams shall come from selected schools all over Metro Manila.

Eliminations will be conducted at the Meralco Gym in Pasig City while the semifinal and final rounds will be held during the NBA Madness, the NBA's annual grassroots event which will be held at SM Megamall Car Park from Sept. 2 to 5.

The inter-school tournament will determine the first-ever Jr. NBA and Jr. WNBA 3-on-3 Champion for the Philippines.

Interested schools that wish to participate in the Jr. NBA and Jr. WNBA tournament may contact the Growee Hoops School at 687-4364, 688-0167 and 687-2025 (telefax).

Growee Hoops School was first started in 2002 and brought basketball camps and clinics to more than 40 schools and thousands of kids in just three years.

Sanchez, Bancod hurdle rivals, bolster chances

FILIPINO International Master Joseph Sanchez and IM Ronald Bancod defeated their respective rivals to share 6th to 17th places after the seventh round of the XVI Open Cannes International Chess Championships yesterday in Cannes, France.

Sanchez and Bancod, who drew their sixth round game, beat French Pavel Govciyan and Eric Huin, respectively, to tally identical 5.0 points. Also with the same output are Super GM Vladislav Tkachiev of France, GM Vadim Malakhatko of Ukraine, GM Chanda Sandipan of India, GM Bogdan Lalic of England, GM Miroljub Lazic of Yugoslavia, GM Davor Komljenovic of Croatia, IM Fabio Bellini of Italy, IM Sebastian Siebrecht of Germany, IM Aurelien Dunis and IM Benjamin Bujisho of France.

GM Sinisa Drazic of Yugoslavia remained on top with 6.0 points after demolishing GM Andrei Shchekachev of Russia in the sixth round and drawing with GM Mladen Palac of Croatia in the seventh.

Filipino National Master Yves Rañola lost his seventh round match against IM Yannick Gozzoli of France and was stuck at 4.5 points.

Gozzoli now has 5.5 points, good for a tie for 2nd to 5th places with Super GM Miladinovic of Greece, GM Palac and GM Andrei Sokolov of France.

In the eighth round, Sanchez will be handling Black against Malakhatko; while Bancod will be playing White against Lazic. Rañola will try to bounce back in contention against Aurelio Colmenares of Lugano, Switzerland. *NM Marlon Bernardino*

POWERHOUSE AUSTRALIA

Thorpe can count on teammates in Athens

THORPE will have a lot of help in the Athens Olympics. REUTERS

SYDNEY—The colossus Ian Thorpe dominates Australia's chances of gold in the pool at Athens but the country is excited at the prospect of sending its strongest women's swimming team to an Olympics since Munich in 1972.

Twenty one-year-old Thorpe is vying to become the first swimmer to win the 100m, 200m and 400m freestyle at one Olympics in Athens.

Thorpe, who claimed three gold medals at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, says his preparation is on track.

Yet world record holder Thorpe would not be swimming the 400m in Athens had not the berth been relinquished by Craig Stevens.

Thorpe was resigned to missing out when he was disqualified for a false start at the national selection trials last March, only for Stevens, who finished second to Grant Hackett, to give up his spot preferring to concentrate on the 1500m and 4x200m freestyle relay at the Olympics.

Thorpe only has to win one more gold in Athens to equal compatriot Dawn Fraser's four from three Olympic campaigns in the 1950s and 60s.

Hackett, 24, is in form to win the 1500m gold for the second straight Games. He owns the world record of 14:34.56 set at the 2001 Fukuoka championships and hasn't lost in the event since the 1996 Olympic trials in Sydney.

While expectations are high for Thorpe and Hackett in Athens, the women have all the form and times to suggest something special can happen.

Australia hasn't had a women's Olympic swimming team with so much potential since the 1972 Munich Olympics, when its women won five of six swimming gold medals led by triple Olympic champion Shane Gould. *AFP*

Eagles . . .

From page A25

dropped to 3-3. NU fell to 0-5.

"Who wouldn't say it's the hand of God? It's a miracle. I don't know what hit us. We weren't our usual self," said FEU coach Koy Banal.

"My expectation was that we'll win. It was a stolen game," said NU coach Rico Perez, who was ejected in the second quarter for excessive complaining.

The UP Junior Maroons drubbed the NU Bullpups, 81-60, for their third win in four games. Eral de Peralta and JM Aranas combined for 40 points.

The Scores:

Second Game (Srs)

FEU 86—Santos 28, Miranda 17, Chan 12, Rizada 6, Isip 6, Flores 6, Yabut 3, Mangahas 3, Villanueva 2, Adolfo 2, Dela Cruz 1, Santiago 0, Barcellano 0, Babilonia 0.

NU 85—Mendoza 28, Asoro 13, D. Catamora 10, Fernandez 8, King 7, Estolano 6, Balijon 6, Mollena 4, Flor 3, Malcontento 0, Moradas 0, Malagueno 0, C. Catamora 0.

Quarters: 15-24, 42-45, 58-63, 76-76, 86-85.

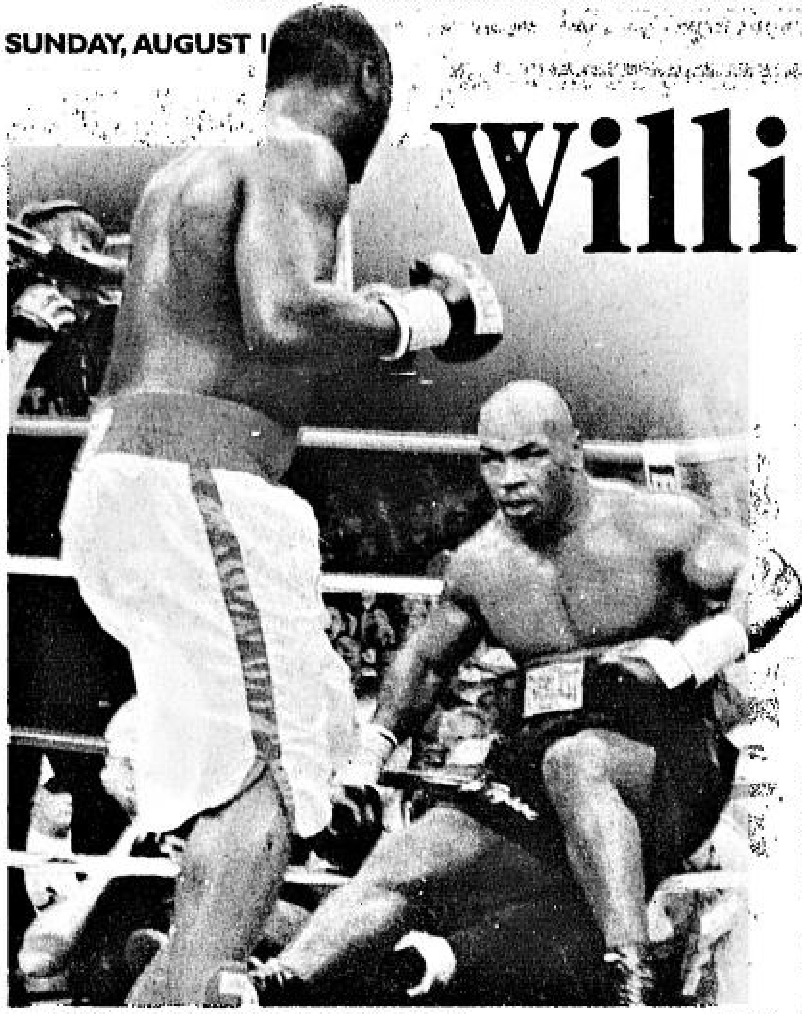
Third Game (Srs)

ATENEO 58—Tenorio 14, Intal 13, Membrere 10, Bugia 6, Del Rosario 6, Escalona 6, Kramer 3, Aguilar 0, Tiu 0, Barracoso 0, Arao 0, Quimson 0.

ADAMSON 55—Abadia 15, Bono 13, Cabahug 11, Canuday 7, Poloyapoy 2, Tajonera 2, Alonzo 2, Tagupa 2, Hugnatan 1, Gandarosa 0, Hate 0, Tiongco 0.

Quarters: 11-27, 28-42, 41-47, 58-55.

Williams pummels Tyson



THE END came in the 4th round for Tyson. REUTERS

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky—The end came with the shocking suddenness of many Mike Tyson fights. First, the flurry of devastating punches, then a fighter falling bleeding to the canvas.

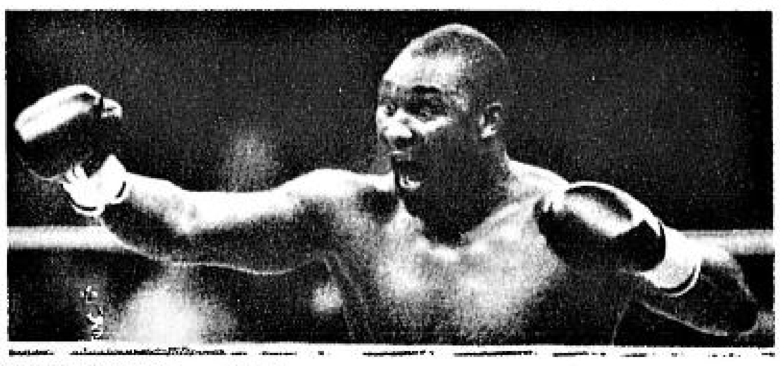
Even more shocking was that fighter was Tyson himself.

A comeback born out of financial desperation didn't go past the fourth round Friday night when an unheralded British heavyweight by the name of Danny Williams knocked Tyson out with a savagery that may have once and for all exposed Tyson as a shot fighter.

At the age of 38, Tyson ran out of energy after trying to put Williams down for the first three rounds and was driven to the canvas with a final right hand that may have signaled the end of his hopes to become a serious heavyweight contender again.

"Once I hurt him I just let go," Williams said. "I just kept punching and punching."

Beaten and battered, Tyson laid helplessly along the ropes, blood flowing down his face.



WILLIAMS: Unheralded no more AFP

The former baddest man on the planet stared ahead with a look of resignation on his face as his latest comeback—and perhaps his tumultuous career—collapsed along with him.

In his corner, Tyson apologized to his trainer. Across the ring, Williams celebrated and then proposed to his girlfriend—who accepted.

And somewhere, lawyers began trying to figure out how Tyson could pay off $38 million in debt when his asking price will surely plunge after such a devastating defeat.

"People forget this isn't a peak Mike Tyson. This was a Mike Tyson who was 38 years old," Williams said.

Williams ended a wild slugfest with a flurry of punches that sent Tyson sprawling into the ropes late in the fourth round. With blood streaming down his face, Tyson appeared to contemplate the end, then made a halfhearted effort to get up before the fight was called to an end at 2:51.

The fight was a free-for-all from the opening bell before an excited crowd at a nearly full Freedom Hall. Tyson landed some huge left hooks early, only to take punishment himself when Williams got over his initial stage fright and began brawling. *AP*

Misplaced Magahin

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

WILLIAM Magahin is the conscience of the sporting times. His story is so reflective of society's callousness to human tragedy:

In 1996, Magahin lost his world boxing title. While it's easy to see winners suddenly besieged by relatives they never knew from Adam, losers like Magahin found himself, quite expectedly of course, a virtual orphan. Suddenly, even the very same people closest to him when he was seated on the throne avoided him like the bubonic plague.

In 2000, Magahin took the spotlight once more. While working as a parking lot attendant at Harrison Plaza, he knocked out a cell phone thief trying to flee from the crime scene; it took Magahin just one punch—an uppercut—to disable the suspect. Retrieving the cell phone, he gave it to its owner. He got a "thank you." The franchise-owner of the parking lot gave him a pat on the back.

In 2004, he became a thief himself. And a bad one, I must say. The police collared him after a catch-me-if-you-can city chase, his reflexes now dulled by time.

Such is the life and times of William Magahin, the former World Boxing Federation (WBF) welterweight champion.

We've heard of several stories of former sports heroes also taking the low road in life. Before Magahin came Rolando Navarette, who breaks our hearts repeatedly for his regular brushes with the law. Once convicted of rape in Hawaii and for which he served time in prison, Navarette would deteriorate into a bum in a GenSan neighborhood and soon, would become a virtual menace to society. Every now and then, Navarette would get himself thrown behind bars, either because of beating neighbors at the slightest provocation or battering his live-in partner.

I have a soft heart for Navarette because, when he prepared for his defense of his world boxing title in Manila some 20 years ago (against a Korean named Kim Yong-Il, I guess), I followed him every step of the way. I rented a room next to him at Silahis Hotel, now the Grand Boulevard Hotel; I stayed there almost a week, sticking to him like, well, a leech. His eyes were the unfriendliest in the world. Good thing his Cuban trainer then was a nice fellow from Havana, who would always "protect" me from Navarette, so hostile he would throw dagger looks at me each time I watched him train, shadow-box, or even simply do the skipping rope. It was only when he won that fight—he survived a precarious fifth-round knockdown—that he became a little friendly to me: he gave me a hug when I visited him in his room at close to 2 in the morning, mumbling: *"Salamat."* He was hurting from that fight, which was so brutal his Korean foe had to be taken to the hospital for a broken nose and a busted eyelid, and to soothe badly battered muscles, if not frayed nerves. I would learn later in the day that the Korean had blood in his urine when he emptied his bladder. The article about that blood-splattered fight became cover story of Panorama, the Sunday magazine of Bulletin. Navarette had that framed for souvenir.

I've never seen William Magahin fight. But I heard he was also good.

What drove Magahin to pull off that infamous FX taxi holdup just a while back? Poverty, maybe? Surely, not drugs because I heard he was sober as a bee when the cops nailed him.

Whatever, his case tugs at the heart.

Here's a guy losing the handle when he was not world champion anymore, when he has returned to his old self as Mr. Nobody after becoming Mr. Somebody, nay for a fleeting moment.

What can society do to rectify the error, if not redeem society's carefree, if not indifferent, attitude to its heroes, many of them literally forgotten and left to rot in the byways of solitude?

As I write this, Magahin is detained at the Baler police station in Quezon City. The blotter says he is facing charges for a robbery-holdup of FX passengers. To gain temporary liberty, he needs to post bail of P100,000.

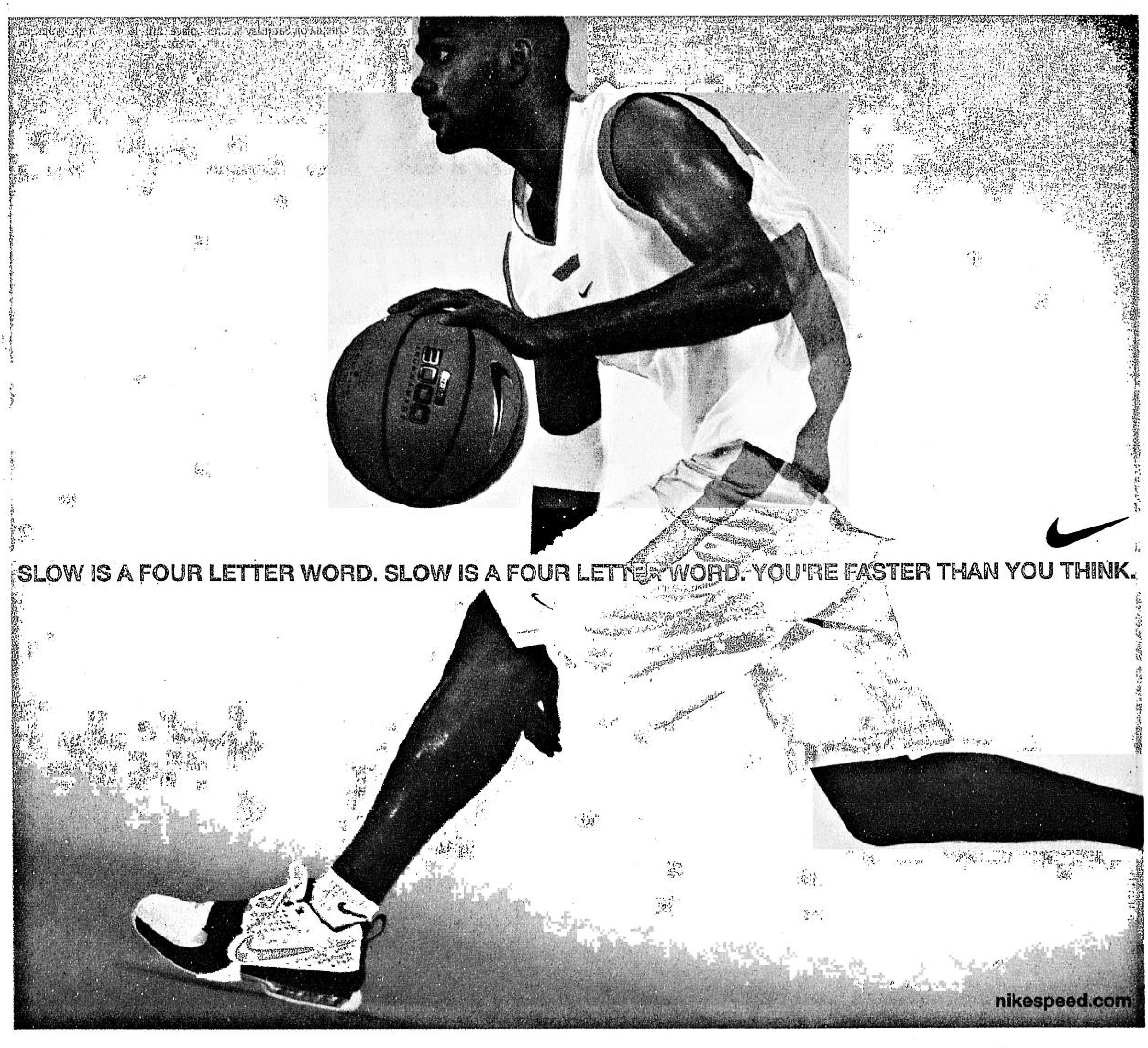
The prospects are bleak: No relative, not even an acquaintance, is coming to his rescue. Even his former manager has deserted him a long time ago.

Asked Jack Rennie, the WBF supervisor from Australia, upon learning of Magahin's plight: "Where are those people who benefited a lot when Magahin was still world champion? The government should have provided Magahin with a livelihood or pension, being a former sports icon especially after it has been reported that he was a car parking attendant."

It's been 18 days since Magahin's arrest on July 13. Can the Games and Amusements Board at least extend him a helping hand?

If not, I might yet urge our congressman (Amado "Espine" Espino) to make representations on Magahin's behalf.

It's shameful enough to see a hero turned to heel. But for us to simply remain bystanders and not do anything about it, why we ought to be ashamed of ourselves all the more for allowing a hero languish in the dungeons of obscurity he himself was not solely responsible for.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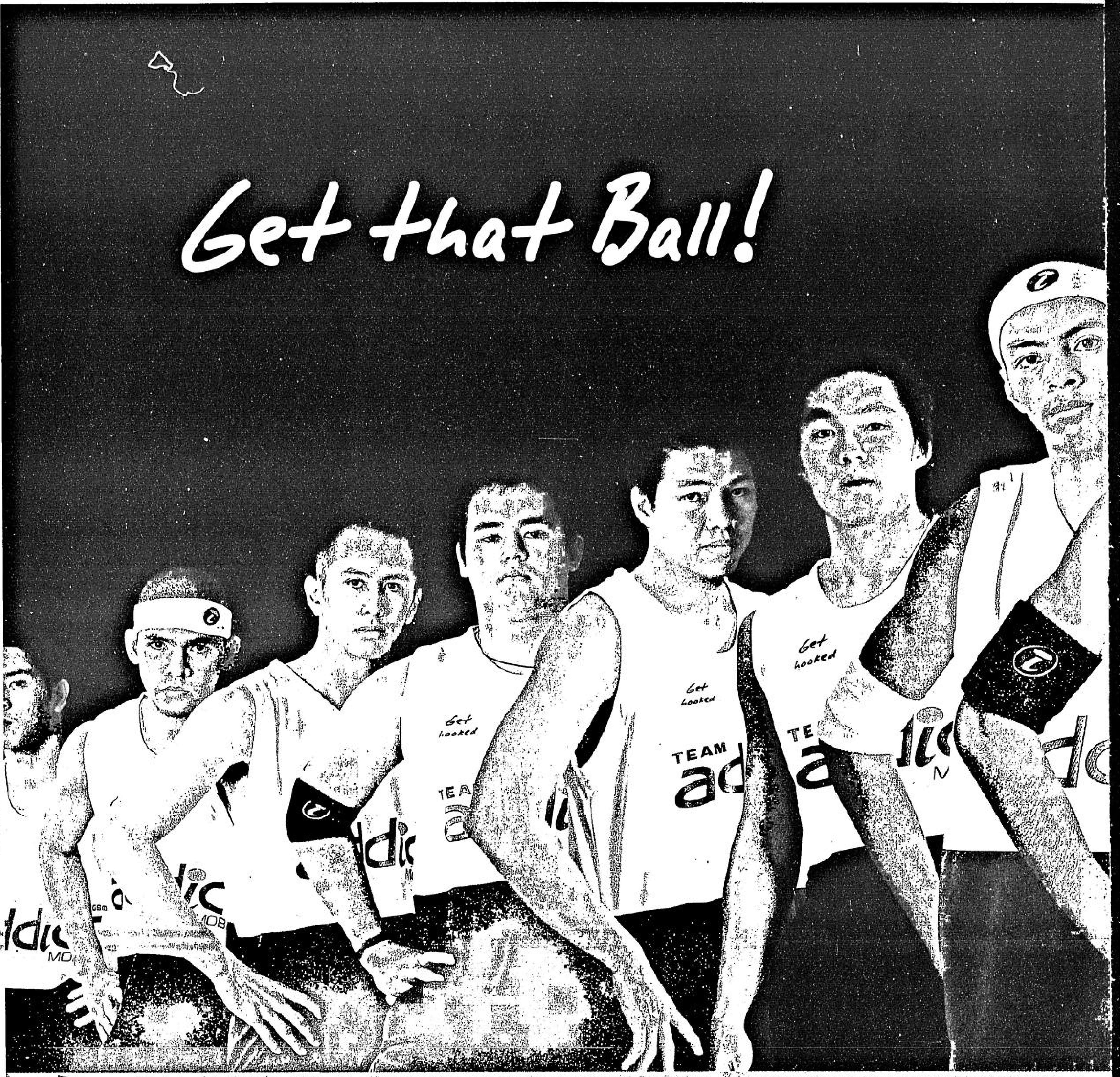
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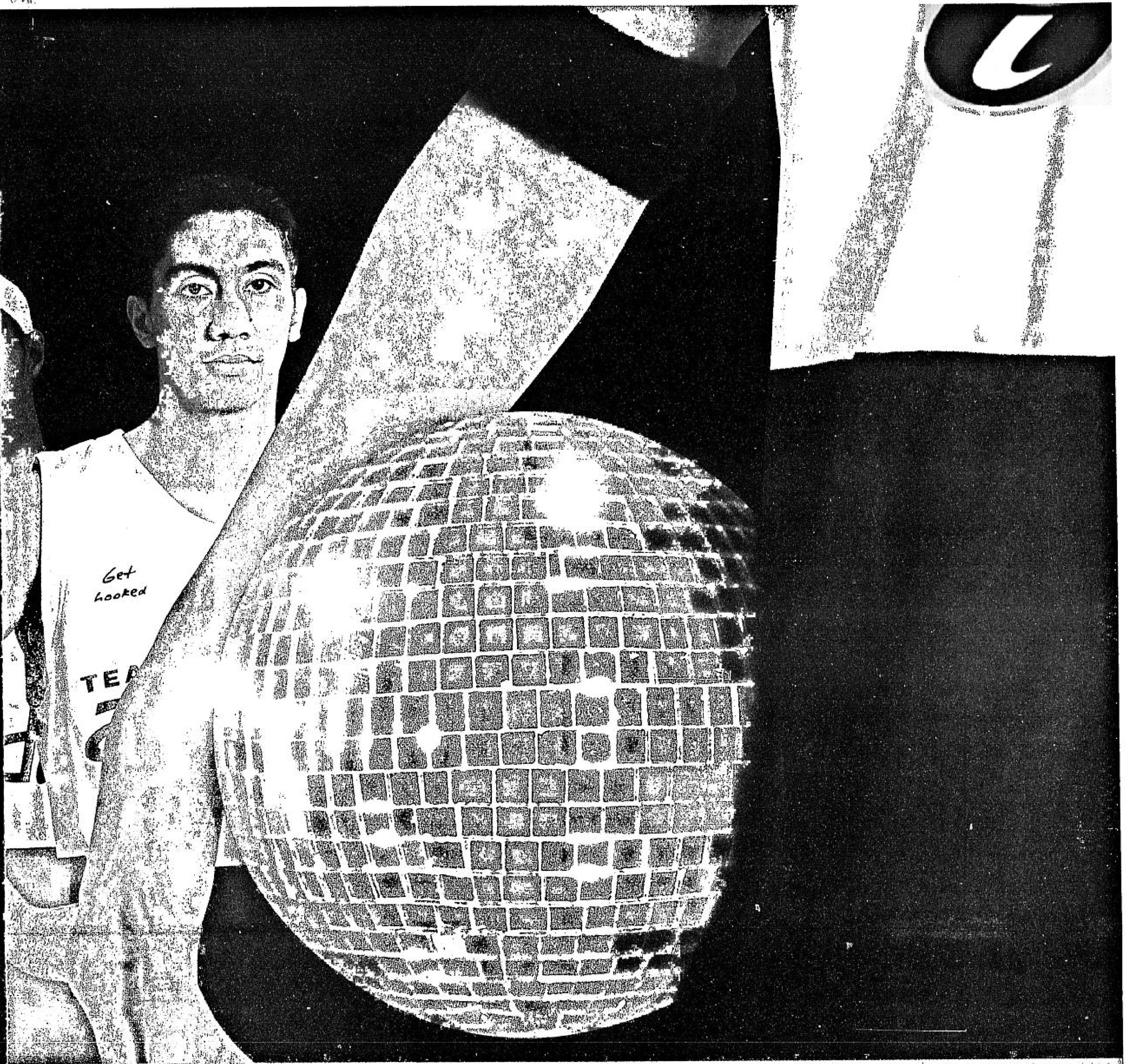
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Tabuena up by 2; Ardina holds 2nd

MIGUEL Tabuena sparkled with a four-under-par 68 on Friday (Saturday in Manila) to seize a two-stroke lead over American Landon Hearns in the 9-years-old category but Dottie Ardina slipped to second place in her division after the penultimate round of the US Kids World golf championships in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Tabuena moved on the brink of his biggest victory yet as he led Hearns by two with a 140 aggregate, four under par at the challenging Williamsburg National Golf Club. He had a 72 in the opening round.

Ardina and another RP bet in the 7-years-old category, AR Ramos, were just a stroke behind the American leaders in their respective divisions, boosting hopes for a triple-kill by Filipino kids in this prestigious meet featuring 700 entries from all over the world.

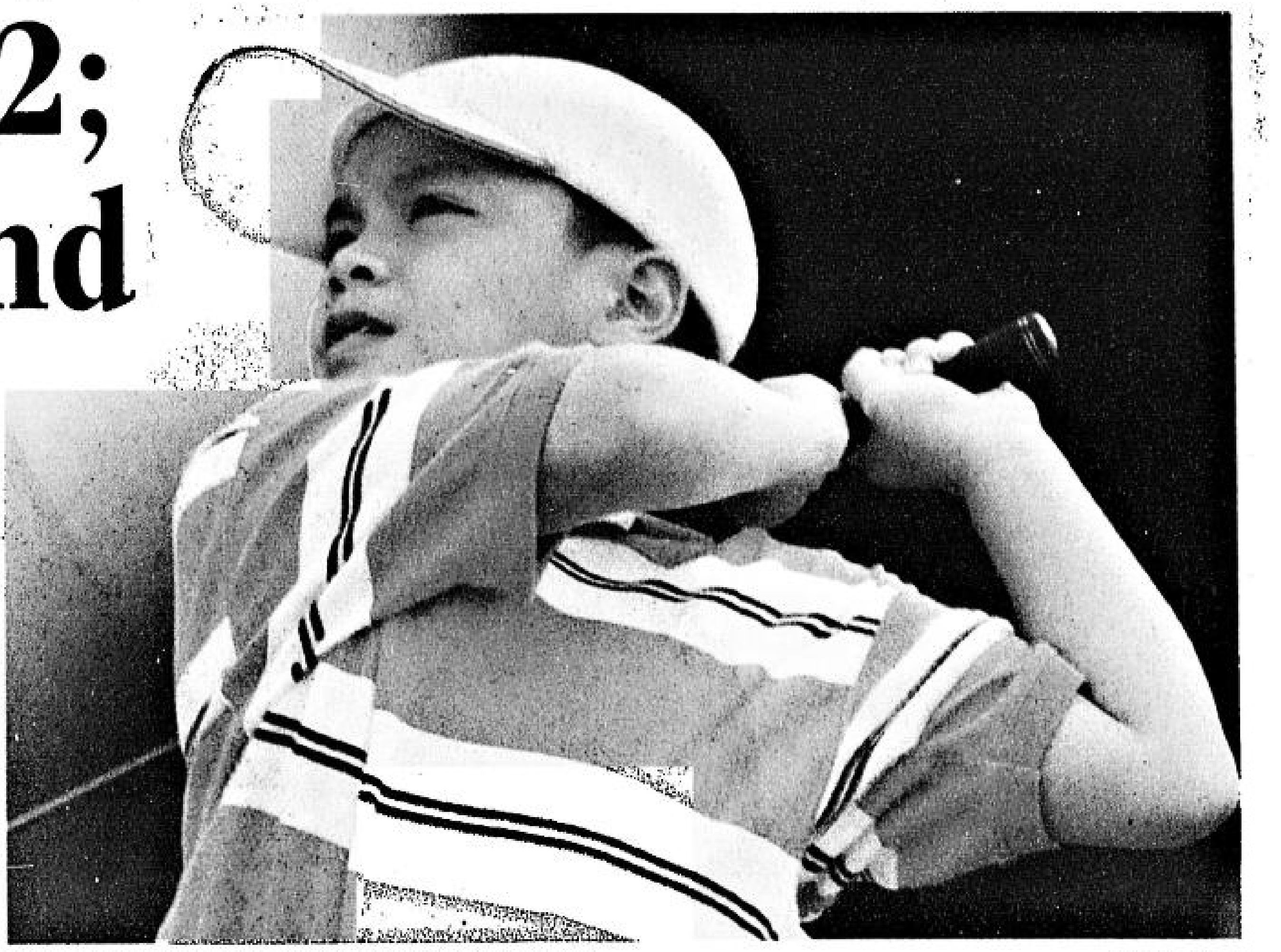
Ardina shot an even 35 for a 36-hole total of 69 and stood one stroke behind Lydia Gumm of the US while Ramos kept his title-retention bid alive with a four-under 32 for a 65 to trail Joshua Martin who had a 64.

"Our kids did well on a sunny day here," said Luigi Tabuena, head of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines delegation here. Mia Piccio was also running second in the girls' 12 years class after a 75-147, but was six shots off Karrie Metz of California.

Andie Unson's 38-77 put her in seventh spot in the girls' 9 years, 13 shots off the pace, while Jan Jan Ybanez (76-164) was far behind in the boys' 11 years.

In the Optimist International championships in West Palm Beach Florida, Jayvie Agojo virtually kissed her three-peat bid goodbye after a 77 put her nine strokes off the pace.

Agojo had a 155 against the 46 of Juliana Beatriz Murcia Ortiz who shot a 68. Remijin Camping shot a 76 and gained a share of 10th. US-based Carl Santos Ocampo scored 73-150.



TABUENA moves on the threshold of his biggest victory. ROGER MARGALLO

SPORTSWATCH

UM Hawks wrest solo lead

DEFENDING champion University of Manila crushed STI College, 83-46, to wrest the solo lead even as St. Clare College (Caloocan) and University of Makati bounced back into contention in the 2004 NAASCU basketball tournament at the UM gym. Ryan Regalado scattered 18 points and two other mainstays also scored in double figures for the Hawks, who claimed their second straight win in the nine-team, double-round tournament. Handled by multititled coach Loreto Tolentino, the Hawks debuted with a smashing 85-57 win over New Era University at the Makati Coliseum last Wednesday. St. Clare outsteadied New Era University, 75-70, while University of Makati crushed AMA Computer University-Quezon City, 90-75, to barge into the win column after dropping their opening-day assignments. Raymund Deveraturda fired 20 points and hauled down five rebounds for the Saints, who are being handled by coach Joel Dualan.

Knights advance in Liga Mindanao

THE KNIGHTS Football Club relied on top scorers Allan Ray Fernandez and Peter Jaugan to get past a determined Warren Coquilla eleven in the 2nd leg of their home-and-away encounter last weekend in the Liga Mindanao held at home in the Tiongko field in Davao City. A 20th minute, 20-yard blast by Lloyd Aricayos, a header by star striker Ray in the 66th and another by Jaugan in the 70th sent the Liga Davao champions into the next round with a 3-1 victory. Knights FC qualified with a 6-4 aggregate after drawing their away match, 3-3, two weeks ago. Ian Pongo scored Warren Coquilla's lone goal. A crowd of 800 witnessed the game sponsored by Pagcor, Philippine Sports Commission, Del Monte and the Philippine Football Federation.

Laguna football kicks off today

THE LAGUNA 'Open' football tournament kicks off today at the University of the Philippines Los Baños football pitch. Organized by the Laguna Football Association headed by Edward Magallona and sponsored by the UPLB Department of Human Kinetics , the 'weekends-only' games has LFA general-secretary Alan Payson as its tournament director. Teams registered for the event are Sao Paolo (Sta. Rosa), UPLB Varsity, Trace Computer FC, Sta. Cruz FC, San Pablo City Football Club, International Club Los Baños, International Rice Research Institute and Expats FC (made up of Brazilians and Argentines).

Gamecock Forum I starts Saturday

WITH 180 participants coming from all over the Philippines, Norway, England, Canada, USA and Australia, the first ever Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association Inc. (LGBA) Gamecock Forum I "All About Game cocks" seminar/workshop is all set this Friday and Saturday, Aug. 6 and 7, at Sulo Hotel. "The seminar is fully booked. This will be a prelude to a bigger gathering next year, maybe a *sabong* congress or convention that will involve practically all players in the gamecock industry," said LGBA president Rene "Boy" Diaz. The seminar's speakers will be headed by experts from Univet Agricultural Products, Excellence Gamefowl Specialists, Robichem Laboratories, Purina, Vitarich, Asvet Inc., Agri-Specialists and San Miguel Foods Inc., as well as respected breeders like Biboy Enriquez, Jay Sonza, Lancey de la Torre, Emoy Gorgonia, Ricoy Palmares, Capt. Ben Rodriguez and Tonio Miguel Romulo. Participants include presidents of gamecock associations affiliated with the National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders Inc. (NFGB) as well as Michael Dizon of Norway, Ed Regondola of England, Johnny Ochoa of Canada and William Paragas of Australia. Also coming are cockers from Tuguegarao, Oriental Mindoro, Iloilo, Zamboanga del Norte, Baguio, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Palawan, Misamis Oriental, Pangasinan, Davao and Bukidnon. For inquiries, contact 926-7808 and 924-5072 or 924-5051 (loc. 128) and look for Taz Lunasco.

Pahabol sa Taglugon in Cavite Coliseum

A BIG field of Metro Manila and provincial participants are seeing action in the 17th Season Pahabol sa Taglugon 4-Cock Derby" on Thursday, Aug. 5, at the Cavite Coliseum Derby Center in Bacoor, Cavite. In its past 16 years of record-breaking feats, more than 1000 cockers have joined the annual event, according to host/promoter Bobbit Ples. The latest batch of participants include Bobby Seelin, Norberto Tanyugan, Nestor Alcala, Carding Ng, Vice Gov. Lambino of Pangasinan, Tony Faustino, Lito Alcantara, VGS 808 Group, Rod Villarubio, Richard Ticson, Daday Siochi, Jun Cabrera, Darwin Torres, Gatmaitan Tan, Hajime Ogawa, Jun Villar, Ariel Uy, Emitt San Juan, Dr. Arsenio Tuazon, Mody Almendras, Efren Waniwan, William Co, Vice Mayor Nestor Mercado, Richard Bates, Pol Estrellado, Boy Royo, Joel Fernando, Gov. Ito Ynares, Sen. Ramon Revilla, Arnold Mendoza, Eric de la Rosa, and Joseph Dilay. For an entry fee of P8,800, the prize at stake is P500,000. For details and cockhouse reservation, call 09165055126 (Jun Jun), (046)970-9971 (Nani) or (046)502-1484 (Dado). Sponsors are Pagcor-Casino Filipino and PCSO.

OLYMPIC TUNEUP

RP Alaxan FR Boxing Team strikes a pose in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, in their 45-day pre-Olympic preparation prior to the Athens Olympics. Front row from left, Chris Camat—75 kg, Violito Payla—51 kg, Harry Tañamor—48 kg, Romeo Brin—64 kg, Joan Tipon—54 kg. Back row, Gregorio Caliwan—head coach, Nolito Velasco—asst coach, Manuel T. Lopez—president (Abap), and Patricio Gaspi—asst. coach.

Rotary golfest attracts 30 teams

THIRTY teams have already assured organizers of their participation in the RGFFP (Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines) tournament to be played at the Cebu Country Club and Alta Vista Golf and Country Club in Cebu City on Aug. 11-13.

Among these are Rotary Club of Makati West, Makati North, Pasig, Bagumbayan, Quezon City and Metro West Triangle.

Many more have signified their intention to join but they're requesting for more time, according to Albert Que, RGFFP executive vice president/chief operating officer. In fact, the deadline for the tournament fee of P3,500 has been extended until Aug. 6. After that, however, the fee will be raised to P4,500.

Tournament sponsors include Pagcor, Smart, Air Philippines, Petron, GNC, Asia Brewery, PLDT, Orchard Golf and Country Club, Hotel Copacubana, Integrated Pipe Specialist and Enriquez Security and Services.

Rotary Club of Cebu Port Center led by George Hong is co-host of the tourney chaired by Rotarian Nonoy Braga.

Major prizes are up for grabs in nine par-3 holes on both Cebu courses. Four holes will be covered at P1 million, four holes at P700,000 and the last, which is a fun hole, will have three plugs (pins) offering one Omega watch, one 29-inch flat screen tv set and a set of irons.

For more information about the tournament package, which includes air fare and hotel reservations, you may call Rowena Baliday and Annie Mejorada of the RGFFP Secretariat, tel. nos. 721-0564, fax nos. 721-8896 and 721-5940 or email rgffp1987@yahoo.com and meriyah@yahoo.com.

Visayas and Mindanao participants may call Ms Fe Escaño c/o RC CPC Escaño Compound, A. del Rosario Ave., Tipolo, Mandaue City, telefax no. (032) 422-6753 or email fe_escaño@yahoo.com or fe_escaño@hotmail.com.

Donald rips mark, paces Masters

MALMO, Sweden—England's Luke Donald produced a course record seven under par 65 at the Scandinavian Masters here Friday to take a one-shot lead from Sweden's Wilhelm Schauman at the tournament's halfway stage.

Schauman carded a six under par 66, with compatriot Christopher Hanell and Irishman Paul McGinley two shots further back on seven under 135.

Donald's performance makes him a serious contender for one of the wild cards for the European Ryder cup team.

"I played very similarly to the way that I did yesterday, I just got more of the putts to roll in for me today," Donald, 26, said after landing seven birdies and 11 pars.

"I am hitting the ball as well as I have been all year at the moment. Golf seems an easy game when you are hitting fairways, hitting greens and making putts, and I got on a bit of a roll out there today.

"I would love to win here. Any win is great, and I don't think that it would do my Ryder Cup chances any harm," said Donald, who currently lies 14th in the world points list from which the top five qualify for the team.

One shot behind Hanell and McGinley are the Swedish trio of Johan Edfors, Peter Hanson and Henrik Stenson, as well as Englishman David Howell. *AFP*

MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION TEAM

Twenty-two members of the first Philippines Mount Everest expedition team pose before their departure yesterday for Himalayan, India, where they will train at the Western Himalaya Institute on basic and advance mountaineering courses for 45 days. The group is led by DOTC Undersecretary Arturo Valdez (standing fifth from right). ROGER MARGALLO

WAP, Jaycees partnership to produce Olympians

THE WRESTLING Association of the Philippines (WAP) headed by Vincent Hernandez Piccio III will hold monthly clinics dubbed as "The Search for Olympic Wrestlers" in various parts of the country through the help of Jaycees International.

A Memorandum of Agreement stating that Jaycees International, which has 230 chapters nationwide, gives unwavering support to make the monthly workshops possible was signed recently.

Jaycees International will shoulder the promotions, sponsor the venue, participants, food and accommodation of the participants, and the Philippine Team venue that will conduct the clinics.

The clinics are open to all enthusiasts and PE instructors from different schools and universities all over the nation.

"We chose to support wrestling because we believe that this is a safe discipline and Filipinos possess huge potential to excel in this sport.

"We may never know, our next Olympic medal could come from wrestling," said Jaycees International secretary general Charito "Chato" de Leon.

Time Gentleman, Being There picked in Imports Stakes race

By Edwin Villanueva
Contributor

MAYBE this time.

That was how star jockey Jonathan Hernandez assessed Time Gentleman's chances in today's fourth leg of the Philracom Imported Stakes Series at the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

"Baka sakali palarin na (Hopefully, she'll have the luck)," said Hernandez, referring to the six-year-old mare's outing in this afternoon's 1,500-meter race where six other imports are competing.

"Pero di dapat gaano magkumpiyansa kasi ang gagaling din ng kalaban (But we should not be too confident because the other entries are also good)," added Hernandez, who will be riding the fast-stepping galloper for the third time.

Among the other entries, the in-form Being There is considered a serious threat to Time Gentleman, who landed only second in the third leg won by Sexiest.

Being There is a four-year-old chestnut filly sired by America's leading freshman sire in 2002 Distorted Humor out of Fanfare Bubbles. Distorted Humor is also the sire of 2003 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes champion Funny Cide.

Antonio Alcasid Jr. will be back atop Being There, the Red N Stable bet, gunning for a third straight victory. In her last outing (July 11), Being There came off the pace to win at Santa Ana while prior to that (July 3), she triumphed at the SLLP in wire-to-wire style.

Also tipped as strong contenders are the Hermie Esguerra Stable's Royal Catch and Crystal Show. Completing the lineup are Glamour, American Dame and Cycles.

Chairman Jimmy Dilag and executive director/commissioner Eddie Jose of the sponsoring Philippine Racing Commission announced that the winner of the race will get P270,000 out of the guaranteed gross prize of P450,000.

Key Apo, owned by Marho chief Putch Puyat, topped the initial leg of the series, while Esguerra's Neat Laurel prevailed in the second leg.

Likewise backing up today's program at the Carmona, Cavite racetrack are the Ambassador's Cup where Sexiest is heading the cast, the Consular's Cup and the MJCI Pre-Juvenile race.

RACING
TIPS

RACING TIPS AT SLLP

BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Speed Majesty/Speed Admiral 2.,Namaste 3. Time Deposit 4. Formidable Ella
Race 2--1. Assunta de Rio 2. Sierra Madre 3. Gold Marlin 4. Cast Away
Race 3--1. Gutsy Warrior 2. Super Woman/Beyond ReachRace
Race 4--1. Successful Dream/Divine Diva 2. E Mail 3. Flying Jordan
Race 5--1. Firenze Rose 2. Fly Aday Fly 3. Britney's Magic 4. Hale and Haerty 5. Hallmark
Race 6--1. San Diego Force 2. Sexiest 3. Surprise Target
Race 7--1. Socialize 2. Jellbeanjoy 3. Chicha Na 4. Black Force 5. Morning After
Race 8--1. Royal Catch/Crystal Show 2. Being There 3. Time Gentleman
Race 9--1. Unrivaled 2. Queen's Gold 3. Beautiful Jaeda 4. Sea of Galilee 5. Gonfalon Story
Race 10--1. Little Girl/Propensity 2. Elite
Race 11--1. Feng Shui 2. Last Dance 3. Caesar's Inn 4. Long Road/Ocean Dignity 5. Gold Prosperity
Race 12--1. Dow Jones 2. Popularity 3. That's My Tiger 4. Ocean Cookie
Race 13--1. Western Dancer 2. Sagittarius 3. Candon's Pride 4. Power Dance 5. Juara 6. Beat D Heat

Myskina ousts erratic Sharapova

CARLSBAD, California—Maria Sharapova has a Wimbledon championship and much glitz and glamour. Anastasia Myskina is a French Open champion with more experience.

Myskina's savvy paid off in a 7-5, 6-2 victory over the erratic Sharapova in the Acura Classic quarterfinals Friday night that ended Sharapova's 14-match winning streak.

"I'm only 17," said Sharapova, who was visibly subdued and appeared near tears. "When I get to her age, I'll be a lot more experienced player and probably physically stronger. She's been around, she finds a way to win."

Serena Williams withdrew from the $1.3-million tournament Friday because of swelling in her left knee, the same one she had operated on a year ago that kept her off the WTA Tour for eight months.

In the other quarterfinals, Lindsay Davenport defeated Ai Sugiyama, 6-1, 6-3, and Elena Dementieva defeated Amy Frazier, 6-2, 6-1, in 62 minutes. She and Davenport will meet in one of Saturday's semifinals at La Costa Resort and Spa, while Myskina faces Vera Zvonareva, who advanced when Williams withdrew.

Sharapova led, 5-2, in the first set when the 23-year-old Myskina reeled off five consecutive games to take the set. Twice in the match, Sharapova was broken on double faults.

"I know there's a lot I can learn from mistakes," she said.

Myskina broke twice to take a 4-0 lead in the second. Sharapova stayed aggressive throughout the 82-minute match, going for shots down the lines that often missed. Sharapova finally held at 4-1 with a 105-mph ace, then broke Myskina on a forehand error.

But Sharapova double-faulted away her service game and Myskina closed out the match with a forehand winner up the line.

"I'm not perfect. There are times you're going to lose," Sharapova said. "A few points I was getting a little frustrated. Her level of play definitely went up."

Sharapova won a Wimbledon warm-up tournament at Birmingham, then surprised Serena Williams in the All England Club final as part of her winning streak. Myskina improved to 3-0 against Sharapova, with all three wins coming this year. *AP*

COSTLY errors send Sharapova packing. REUTERS

Hot Federer fans streak, gains semis

TORONTO—Top-ranked Roger Federer stretched his winning streak to 21 matches by beating Fabrice Santoro, 7-5, 6-4, Friday to reach the Tennis Masters Canada semifinals.

Federer, who has won three straight tournaments since losing in the third round of the French Open, will play Thomas Johansson on Saturday.

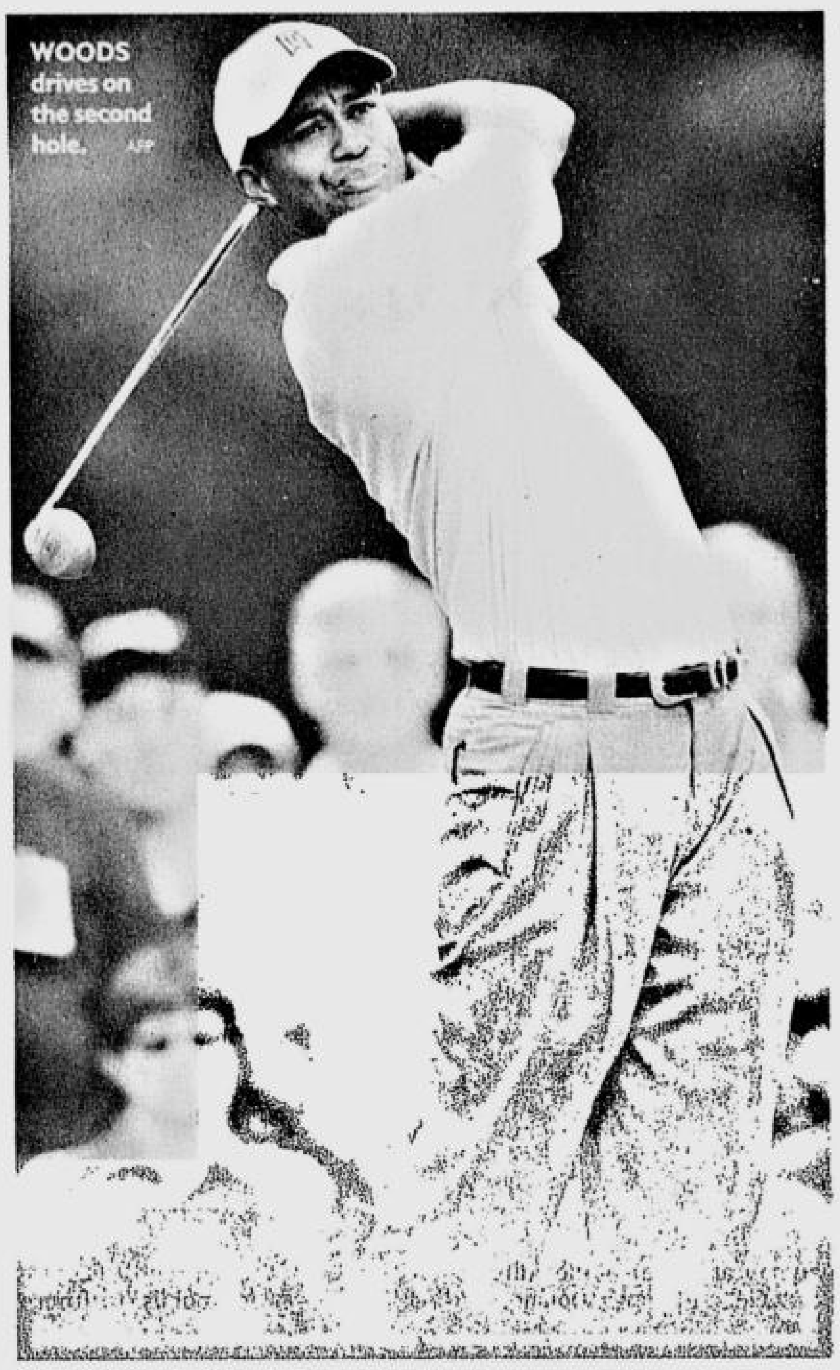
Defending champion Andy Roddick, the No. 2 seed, beat qualifier Jan Hernych, 6-4, 6-2, in the quarterfinals of the $2.5-million tournament.

Hernych, ranked 109th in the world, beat Gustavo Kuerten to advance to the quarterfinals but was no match for Roddick, who held serve at love to close out the match in just over an hour.

Roddick, whose serve has only been broken once in the tournament, said he watched Thursday's match between Kuerten and Hernych to prepare for the quarterfinals.

"I didn't know anything about his game before," Roddick said. "I definitely was thankful that I got a chance to catch that one and watch the whole match."

Roddick, who lost to Federer in the Wimbledon final earlier this summer, will play Nicolas Kiefer in the semifinals. Kiefer beat Jurgen Melzer, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1, in the quarterfinals. *AP*


WOODS drives on the second hole. AFP

Woods, Daly make charge

GRAND BLANC, Michigan—John Daly walked to the clubhouse with a diet cola can in one hand, a trophy in the other and a smile on his chubby face.

After matching his best round of the year with an 8-under 64 Friday at the Buick Open, Daly was presented with a replica trophy earned from his victory at the Buick Invitational six months ago.

When tournament officials offered to ship it to him, the winner of just five PGA Tour events—including two majors—politely declined.

"I haven't seen too many of these. We'll just put it in the bus," Daly said, referring to his luxury motor home.

Daly is just one of the familiar names on the leaderboard at the Buick Open.

Vijay Singh of Fiji shared the second-round lead with Jim Furyk and Billy Andrade at 11 under.

Daly was tied with three others at 10 under, one stroke behind the leaders. Tiger Woods had a 4-under 68 and was among four others another shot back.

Despite playing eight par-5 holes at only 1 under during the tournament, Woods has been pleased with his play and liked where he started the third round.

"I'm right there," Woods said.

The cut was 4 under, matching the low for the season on the PGA Tour and the lowest in Buick Open history.

"There are some good names, but no matter who is on the board, you're going to have to make a bunch of birdies," Woods said. "It's just the nature of this golf course and tournament. You can't go out there and make a bunch of pars."

Unlike majors, where conservative and solid play is rewarded, Warwick Hills forces players to be aggressive. Stewart Cink, who shot a 65 to join Daly in fourth place, said "it's dart-throwing golf."

Singh expects the weekend to be wild.

"It's going to be a shoot-out," he said.

Singh—who shot a 70 on Friday after starting the day with a one-stroke lead at 9 under—was one of the few on the leaderboard unable to take advantage of soggy conditions that made the course even more susceptible to low scores.

"It was a tough day," he said. "I'm happy to be still leading."

The highlight of Daly's round was the par-3 17th when his tee shot left him with a 2-foot birdie putt, which the crowd favorite made to draw a roar at the hole known for its rowdy gallery. *AP*

Wife behind Hernandez in title bout

LAS VEGAS—Super featherweight champion Carlos Hernandez will have his wife, psychologist and manager in his corner. All rolled into one.

MORALES REUTERS

Hernandez puts his IBF belt on the line Saturday night against WBC champion Erik Morales in a title unification bout at the MGM Grand. Hernandez's wife, Veronica, is not only his manager, but she is also a licensed psychologist.

"She's the complete package. She's a buddy of mine, and she's a sharp woman who helps me out business-wise," said Hernandez, whose boxing career went into a tailspin after he lost a decision to Genaro Hernandez in their 1997 bout.

Veronica inspired her husband to fight his way back into the limelight.

"She's given me the support I needed. If it wasn't for her, I would have ended my career years ago and would be just another has-been," Hernandez said.

Veronica was confident her husband could make a comeback.

"His career was just lacking the promotion and the direction that you need to get a shot at the title," she said. "All I did was to give him support and encourage him to keep fighting.

"At one point, he was fighting for practically no money, just to stay active." *AP*

Stupples keeps Open lead as Annika struggles

SUNNINGDALE, England—Annika Sorenstam made three birdies on the front nine and moved within two strokes of the lead before everything went wrong off the tee at the Women's British Open.

"I missed fairways, I missed greens," Sorenstam said Friday after her 1-under 71 left her in a fifth-place tie, four strokes behind leader Karen Stupples. "Luckily I chipped really well. I made a good bunker shot at the last and made some good putts. But it was the long game, I couldn't keep it in play."

Stupples had another bogey-free round, this time a 2-under 70 that moved her to 9-under 135. Beth Daniel (69) and South Korea's Jeong Jang (68) and Seol-An Jeon (69) are tied for second at 6-under 138.

With the sun shining on Sunningdale's Old Course and little wind to trouble the early starters, Stupples fired a 7-wood to the back of the green at the first and made a two-putt birdie. She rolled in a "perfect" 40-foot birdie putt at No. 17 after coming up short with her second shot.

She believes she should have been further ahead of the field.

"It was a bit frustrating at times because I had a couple of opportunities, one on 9 and one on 10, to make birdie," Stupples said. "I felt like I hit really good putts, but they just didn't go in the hole.

Sorenstam birdied the first two holes, both easy par 5s, and was closing in on Stupples.

"I got off to a good start . . . and I felt pretty good about everything," Sorenstam said. "And then I made the turn and I didn't feel so good any more. I was just scrambling on the back nine really. So it was a bit like a long day.

"I still shot under par, so I have to look on the bright side. I lost a little ground but then again I'm right there. There's two more days. It's not the end of the world by any means." *AP*

Filipina Jennifer Rosales was unable to sustain a birdie-eagle start and settled for her second straight 70 and a 215 total after three rounds.

Greene loses; world record falls

LONDON—Maurice Greene no longer looks the favorite for the 100-meter gold medal in Athens. Asafa Powell, a 21-year-old Jamaican, is the man to beat.

Powell, undefeated this season, clocked 9.91 seconds—the fastest time ever on British soil—to win the 100 at Friday night's London Grand Prix meet.

Greene, the 2000 Olympic gold medalist, three-time world champion and former world-record holder, finished second in 9.97.

Another American, Leonard Scott, was third in 10.04.

Russia's Yelena Isinbayeva, meanwhile, broke the world pole vault record for the third time in five weeks, clearing 4.90 m (16 feet, 3/4 inch) on a balmy evening at Crystal Palace.

It was the third defeat of the season for Greene and second in two races.

Last week, he lost to little-known Portuguese sprinter Francis Obikwelu in Paris.

"It doesn't matter what happened here," Greene said. "Everything matters what happens at the games. I'll be ready."

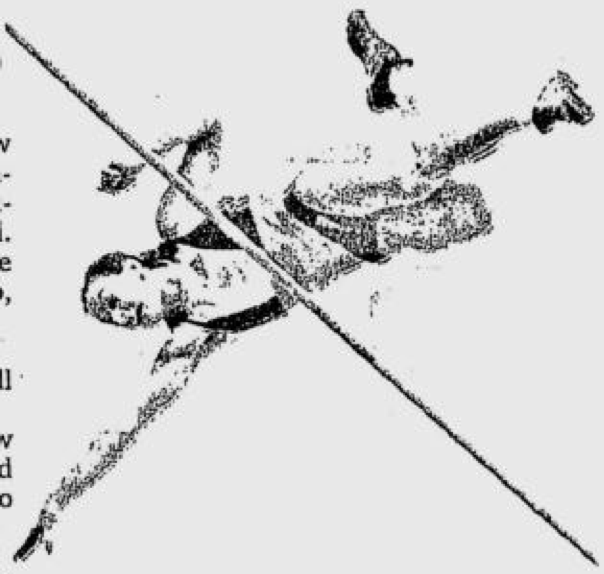
He'll have to find a way to beat Powell.

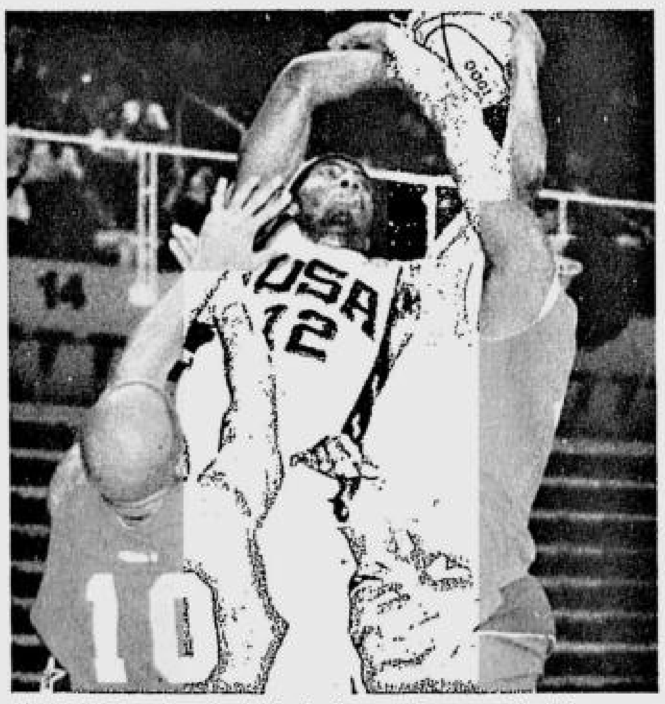
"I'm very confident right now about the Olympics because Maurice Greene won the US trials a couple of weeks ago," Powell said. "They (the Americans) were the guys to beat, and I beat them. So, I'm very confident for Athens."

The favorite?

"You can say that, yeah," Powell said.

Asked whether Powell was now the top sprinter, Greene laughed and said, "No, I think I'm going to win." But he added: "He's very good, you can't overlook him. We're going to have a lot of good races together." *AP*


ISINBAYEVA: Record leap AFP



AMARE Stoudemire (12) challenges Puerto Rico's Larry Ayuso (10) and Sharif Fajardo during a scrimmage. REUTERS

'Dream Team' faces Olympic nightmare

WASHINGTON—What dreams may come when "Dream Teams" have shuffled off this mortal coil?

That question, Shakespeare's Hamlet with a slam-dunk twist, is what Olympic stars from around the world are asking now that the United States' greatest National Basketball Association (NBA) players are skipping the Athens Games.

With US captains Tim Duncan and Allen Iverson leading a set of young NBA stalwarts such as LeBron James and Carmelo Anthony into Greece, the US reign that began with the 1992 Dream Team could come to an end in Athens.

World champion Serbia and Montenegro, European champion Lithuania and teams from Argentina, Spain and China led by NBA stars are major threats to dethrone the Americans, who have never lost an Olympic game using NBA talent.

High expectations

"The expectations are very high," said US coach Larry Brown, who guided Detroit to this year's NBA crown. "You're supposed to win and the fact that we are young, it's going to be a challenge." "If we do the right things, we will do great. I'm not worried about the pressure," Brown said. "We have a responsibility to show the world that we are truly the best basketball team there is." That task would have been easier had defections and rejections not greeted the US Olympic cause from such stars as Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant, Karl Malone, Vince Carter, Jason Kidd, Ray Allen, Jermaine O'Neal and Kenyon Martin.

NBA scoring champion Tracy McGrady said no. So did NBA Most Valuable Player Kevin Garnett. Ben Wallace and Richard Hamilton led Detroit's NBA title run but ditched Athens. Reasons ranged from injury to family to security concerns.

So much for the dream. But beware the US team. Players are young, averaging 23.6 years of age, and size is a concern while several players accustomed to small forward roles will have to adapt their games to new teammates quickly.

Great players

"We're expected to win the gold medal even though we don't have the best players in the NBA playing on the team, but we have some great players on the team," Anthony said.

"Over a billion people are watching. Nobody wants to get embarrassed." For US humiliation, look no further than the 2002 World Championships at Indianapolis, when poor teamwork contributed to a sixth-place US showing by second-tier NBA talent that lost three times.

Unlike that squad, the Olympians are guided by Brown, who is known for team building and making the most of his talent. Defense and crisp passing will be critical under international rules.

"We're not going to have an All-Star team but we have terrific talent," Brown said. "Our job is to play the right way and uphold the great tradition we have had in Olympic competition." *AFP*

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Dying	Five for Fighting	dying
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Sunday BIZ

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Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

CARRIE today

She gave up her dream to fly and soared to greater heights

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SHE MAY not have become the flight stewardess she wanted to be, but Ma. Caridad Pineda-Ibarra, president of BPI Operations Management Corp., still soared to great heights.

Ibarra's fate was sealed in 1971, when she stuck it out with Citibank, even after she got a call to work for Australian flag carrier Qantas, just two weeks later.

Ibarra tells SundayBiz she made the right choice, as her almost obsessive attention to detail, perseverance and propensity for hard work, found better expression in the banking field.

Ibarra reached career highs, however, only after making through personal lows.

Five days short of her 18th birthday, she lost her mother after a long battle with breast cancer.

Her father immediately brought her and her seven siblings to Baguio, to recover from the devastating loss.

After a month, the family went back to Manila. Shortly after their return, her father suffered a fatal heart attack.

This second to the youngest child lost her center, and she struggled to hold on to her faith. But she always believed that God had a good, albeit unfathomable, reason for taking her parents almost at the same time.

"I even wanted to be a nun, and I questioned why it had to happen to me. But I accepted what happened, because my mother always told me that God knew best," Ibarra says.

She emerged from her grief stronger, and with a deeper and closer relationship with her siblings, who took the place of her parents.

It was they who puffed up their chests with pride, when Ibarra got Economics degree from Maryknoll College in 1970.

FIRST JOB

"It really is difficult to lose parents at the same time. But it taught me to persevere and it provided me the drive to be successful in my career," Ibarra says.

She started out as a hiring clerk in Citibank. She was tasked to test applicants and recruit top-caliber graduates of leading schools to join the bank.

She got P488 a month—among the highest entry-level salaries at that time when minimum jeepney fare was 10 centavos.

Citibank would be her employer for 17 years, during which Ibarra went up several rungs of the bank's corporate ladder, before opting for early retirement in 1988.

CARRIE with husband Jun and granddaughter Cai

GRADUATION from Mary Knoll College in 1970

She credits Citibank for having taught her the ropes in bank operations and for providing her with the rigid training regimen she needed to get ahead.

"Training in Citibank is the best. I learned everything there, including a hands-on management style. I did not just bake the cake, so to speak, but I mixed all the ingredients myself," Ibarra says.

It also helped that Ibarra goes through details with a fine—toothed comb—a prized trait in banking, which is all about details.

Details would throw off other people, but not Ibarra.

This is a person, after all, who carries bits of paper around, just so she could write down her thoughts, and makes up a checklist of all the clothes she brings to her travels.

"I do fit the job. Otherwise, I would go crazy, what with all the things that could go wrong at any time," Ibarra says.

Ibarra thought she would leave the banking world behind in 1988, when she took advantage of the early retirement program.

At just 38, Ibarra was all set to sit back and just stay at home, letting her husband, lawyer Orencio Ibarra Jr., do all the work.

But the banking world was not yet through with her, and the would-be housewife stayed so for just a day. On July 1, she took up the offer to move to BPI.

Her first order of the day was to make sure the bank continued to operate despite the labor strike that hit the bank in 1988.

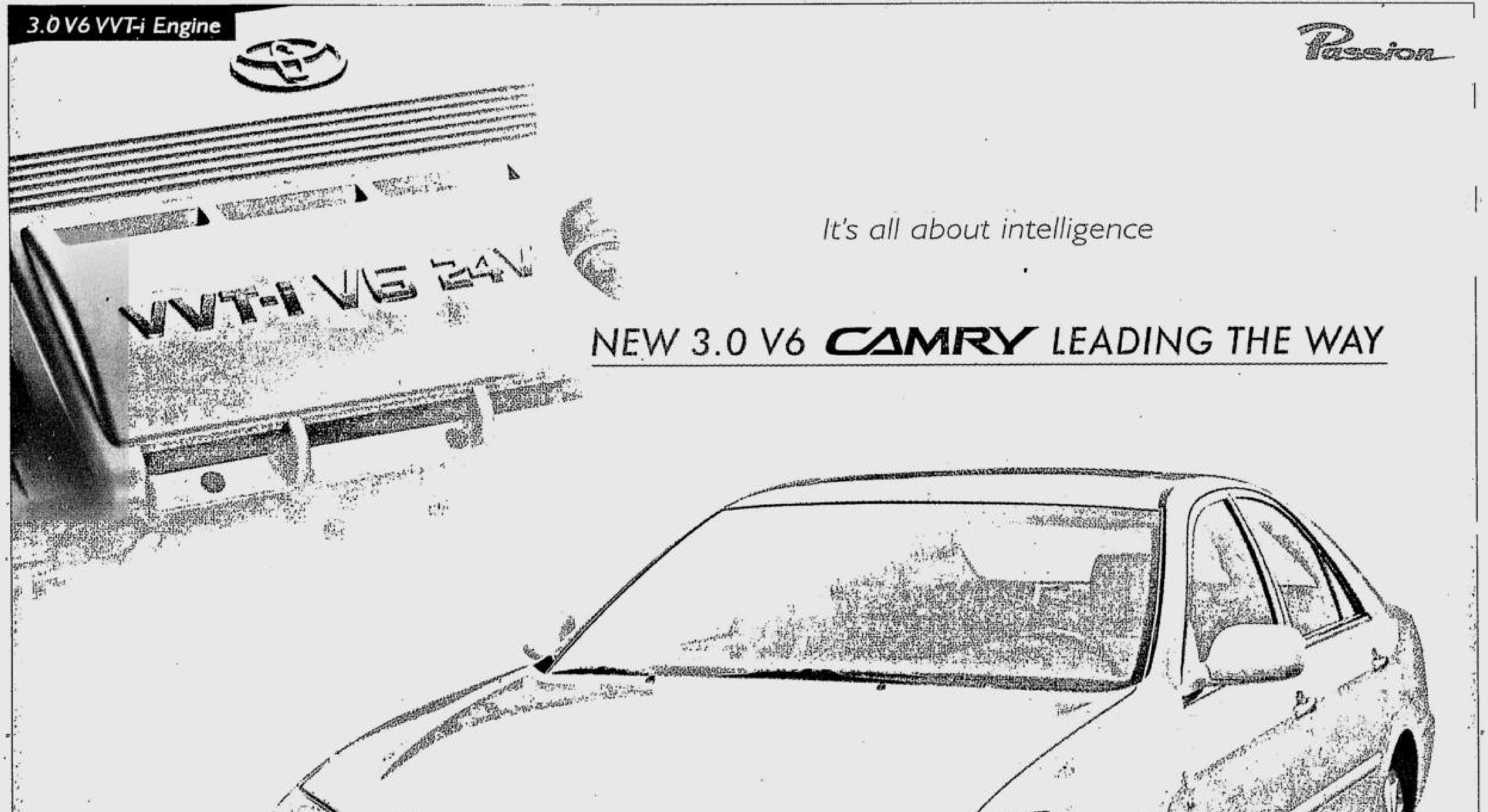
"I transferred the backroom operations to other places. We were renting some rooms at the Intercon and the Philippine Plaza. Through our work, the bank was able to continue its operations," she says.

Her team's feat did not go unnoticed. In just one year, she was promoted to vice president from assistant vice president, and by the following year she was president of BPI-OMC.

"I really looked up to president (Xavier) Loinaz. He really drives people to excel. You would be ashamed not to deliver the results that he wanted," Ibarra says.

She also describes senior vice president Aurelio Montinola III as

SHE/B2



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TOYOTA

CARRIE Ibarra goes to Edsa

She gave up . . .

From page B1

a "perfect boss."

"He does not get angry and he is very fair. And because he is really very nice, you would be encouraged to do your best," she says.

Her best enables the BPI group's 700 branches to have enough money; ATMs to dispense cash; bill statements to be delivered on time and remittances to go through the proper accounts.

"If there is a problem with the ATM, for instance, it will be someone from my team who will go there to fix it. We are always on our toes," she says.

Ibarra says she was initially overwhelmed by the scope of BPI's operations since Citibank only had three branches.

But not one to run away from a challenge, Ibarra applied herself to her work. She would work until the wee hours of the morning, just to make sure a job gets done.

This perseverance eventually earned her the presidency of the BPI subsidiary, which she helped set up.

She says she would not have done it without the support of her staff of 256 and 58 officers.

"I try to lead by example and I would like to believe that I manage my people well. I tell them that we have to do right because we are the heart of the bank," she says.

Ibarra motivates her people by acknowledging their good deeds, although she is quick to put them to task if she finds valid reasons.

She also shares what she knows with her staff as part of their improvement.

Ibarra also stresses the role played by her husband of 33 years, and children Karen and Andre, in furthering her career. Adding to her blessings is the arrival of her first grandchild, Cai, who is unabashedly spoiled by her grandparents.

"I have been really blessed. That is why I try to share my blessings with people around me. Aside from my family, I have also been blessed with really good friends. I cannot ask for more," she says.

Looking back, she says she does not regret her decision to give up her ambition of being a flight stewardess.

For Ibarra, the world still looks good, perhaps even better, from down here.

Oven toaster and ₱300 give rise to a very sweet venture

By Amy R. Remo

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

FOR EIGHT long years, Edwina Tayag Bandong toiled day and night, never took a vacation, nor left her kitchen until she was absolutely sure her staff could produce her silvannas and other goodies the way she did.

It was only on her bakeshop Eriel's ninth year that her husband, Bong, was able to tear her away from the kitchen for a much needed vacation in Boracay.

"But it was all worth it," says Bing, who saw Eriel's rise from its humble beginnings in 1992.

Based in Bing's home in Nueva Ecija, Eriel's sells silvannas—its specialty—as well as macaroons, tarts, brownies, cinnamon sticks, bars, bread and cakes.

According to Bing, it started out as a small business among siblings. They would sell silvannas, macaroons and tarts to college friends and neighbors in Pampanga. It also served as a hobby for her.

But they had to stop in 1988 when each of the siblings got married and moved away.

Bing got married in 1990 and moved with Bong to Nueva Ecija. There, she got contractual work from the Department of Trade Industry, doing feasibility studies on livelihood projects for farmers.

Bing recalls she got the idea of reviving her silvannas business in the aftermath of the July 16 earthquake.

"Back then, I facilitated trainings by the DTI and Technology Livelihood and Resource Center for the earthquake victims," says Bing in Filipino. "I handled the one about making *kakanin* and from that, I thought I could revive my silvannas as well."

Armed with only an oven toaster and P300, Bing tried to make a few pieces but initially failed to replicate her family's silvannas. After several more tries, she managed to recall the old family recipe and started selling it to officemates and neighbors.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

BANDONG with her silvannas and other baked goodies

It sold well.

In 1992, Bing resigned from DTI and took a shot at making silvannas. She named her business Eriel's, after her daughter, which she had registered with the DTI even before she resigned.

"It was difficult at first because aside from not having an oven, I faced a lot of discouragements from other people," relates Bing.

For 50 pieces of silvannas, tarts and macaroons, it would take Bing until 3 a.m. to finish with her oven toaster. She was then a one-man team.

It was the oven of Bing's mother-in-law that finally spared her from doing grueling work till the wee hours of the morning.

Soon enough, the number of orders increased. She hired several employees to help her and to buy, one at a time, equipment for her kitchen such as mixers and blenders.

In 1997, Bing decided to build a bakeshop in their garage. But she only had P20,000 then and she knew it would take a hefty amount for the said project.

Initially, she wanted to get a P25,000 loan from the Producers Bank, where she had an account since 1993.

It so happened that the said bank was part of Philippine Business for Social Progress' Small and Medium Enterprise Credit Program.

Established in 1989, SMEC aims to help countryside-based financial institutions increase their loan portfolio to small and medium enterprises in the provinces. It is a wholesale lending program using thrift and rural banks as conduits of funds provided by a $13-million grant from the United States Agency for International Development.

After the end of the grant in 1995, PBSP managed the enterprise program. In the same year, the SMEC fund was augmented by a P389.7-billion bilateral loan from the KfW, the development bank of Germany.

SMEC allows small enterprises like Bing to access these funds from qualified banks.

Thus, instead of getting only P25,000, Bing was able to loan P50,000 with the help of SMEC and Producers Bank. She used the money to build her shop and kitchen.

She started getting bulk orders, which usually doubled or tripled in December. She was now able to buy several more ovens, freezers and a van for delivery.

Aside from building new stores in Central Luzon State University and San Fernando, Pampanga, Bing also employed distributors for Manila, Angeles, Tarlac, Laguna and Baguio.

She started attending various seminars about the latest cake making or cooking techniques to further harness her baking skills. She experimented in baking new products as well.

"You have to keep up with the trends and with your customers' tastes so you won't get left behind," says Bing.

Bing adds that she also actively participates in trade fairs sponsored by the DTI such as the SME Expo held recently at the SM Megamall in Ortigas Center.

Bing faced several difficulties along the way, but took them all in stride.

One was about the prospect of having a P1-million loan.

"Perhaps, I'm just not used to the idea of owing a bank a huge amount of money," says Bing. "But Bong has always been there to assure me that we'll be able to pay it with the way our business is going."

Another problem was collection. Initially, Bing was overwhelmed with the number of distributors she had. Some were not able to pay for the products delivered. Others would claim her products to be defective or stale.

Bing took it all in stride and trimmed her distributors to five—people either she or her husband knew and trusted.

Managing her staff of 25, at times, could prove to be a challenge. Sometimes her workers don't meet her quality standards and this could be exasperating on her part.

"I'm very lenient. I usually just talk to them and explain to them that we all have to do our part to deliver the best products to our customers," says Bing.

She adds: "I tell them if we don't meet the expectations of our customers, we all lose in the end-me, I lose Eriel's and you,

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Mom's hobby becomes dollar-earning venture

By Joyce Mejillano
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

PRIMO and Nelda Nacion of Prime Legacy RONNIE LOREJO/ PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

DARAGA, Albay—It all started from a housewife's hobby in 1961 and now this pastime has become a dollar-earning venture that exports bags and other handicrafts to the US as well as Europe and Asia.

What makes her native products click is that Nelda Nacion, 68, owner of the Prime Legacy (formerly Nacion's Handicraft), makers of handicrafts and accessories in Barangay Tagas, Daraga, Albay, creates unique designs.

One machine

Nelda started with one sewing machine, which she used in making bags and other products made from abaca during lull moments.

When her friends, neighbors and others saw her products, they asked her to make more until they became her constant buyers. She was forced to produce in bulk when the demand increased.

Nelda became so engrossed with the production she soon realized her hobby was now a venture. Her husband stayed by her side, developing new designs.

She put up a retail store after several months.

When somebody offered her secondhand sewing machines, she took the chance until she acquired more machines.

In 1975, the Development Bank of the Philippines made their business a pilot project of a World Bank-assisted lending program and gave a loan of P173,000 to buy 25 sewing machines and pay for the cost of the expansion of their factory in Barangay Tagas.

As business grew, they decided to put up an office in Metro Manila to access clients outside the region.

With a growing business, four of the five Nacion children, who all became professionals, quit their already lucrative jobs and got involved in the family business.

Trials

Like other businesses, that of the Nacions, also had their share of trials, especially when the export market became unstable in the 1980s.

They ventured into the retail market but it was not successful.

However, the Nacions never lost hope. When the business rebounded in the early '90s, they tried to regain their losses and started anew.

"My motto is 'no surrender' no matter how hard the trials are," Nelda confesses.

She says she and her husband believe all hardships have their ending and all they need is to go on.

One of the biggest blows in their business came when an order abroad was cancelled, but Nelda says "That was just part of the business. If you have no perseverance in this business, you will not succeed, especially when you easily give up," she adds.

Threat

Nelda, however, expresses fear that the local handicraft business might be affected by the imitations being made by other countries, especially China, which, she says, is manufacturing in bulk the same items as they have and at cheaper prices.

"I happen to see an abaca bag one time and it has a tag 'Made in China.' It's almost the same as the product here in Bicol, but it's much cheaper," she says. "I'm afraid that if this will continue, our industry here will die. I hope our government would act on this."

Nelda says she learned that China is importing raw materials like abaca from the Philippines and even hired local skilled handicraft workers from Sorsogon to teach Chinese workers the technology.

Legacy

In 2001, the Nacion children looked for a name to replace Nacion's Handicraft, a name that would speak for what the business really means to them.

"Then we came out with the name, Prime Legacy, because it is indeed a legacy from our parents, a great legacy that all of us are enjoying now," Jocelyn Antonio, a daughter of Nelda, tells the INQUIRER.

"If not because of the business, hard work and perseverance, maybe we will not be where we are right now. And this business will remain as a legacy even to our children and to the next generations of our family," Jocelyn adds.

She serves as the marketing officer in their Manila office.

Jocelyn discloses that they are planning to come up with bags named after her mother as a way of recognizing her effort.

"We want to have a product whose name has something to do with her, as our way of thanking her," Jocelyn said.

Unique

Prime Legacy products have their own uniqueness that make them stand out.

Jocelyn claims the designs are all original and have their own individuality.

"You can hardly find a product with the same design or very similar to another," Jocelyn adds. "If you do, only a maximum of six items. We make sure that the items differ from one another.

"Some customers hate buying items identical to another, *dahil pag nakakasulubong na may kaparehang gamit,*

MOM'S/ B8

Oven toaster and ₱300 give rise to a very sweet venture

From page B2

your jobs."

Even so, Bing says it is her employees, whom she consider as friends, who motivate her to keep Eriel's.

According to her, Eriel's is her way of generating employment in her community. She even provides health benefits for her employees, as well as a yearly bonus.

Bing sells 3,000 boxes of silvannas a month. Each box contains 25 pieces and costs P150 to P200, depending on the place it is sold.

Peak months like December would prompt Bing to hire extra help since she averages 10,000 boxes of silvannas a month.

She now oversees the production of her silvannas. But with her experimented products like the bars and brownies, she prepares the pre-mixes, which she gives to her bakers.

Asked if she wanted to expand, Bing says she would like to take a rest for a while to give more time for her family.

"We have lots of plans for Eriel's but we want to take it slow. I'm already happy and contented with what has become of Eriel's," says Bing.

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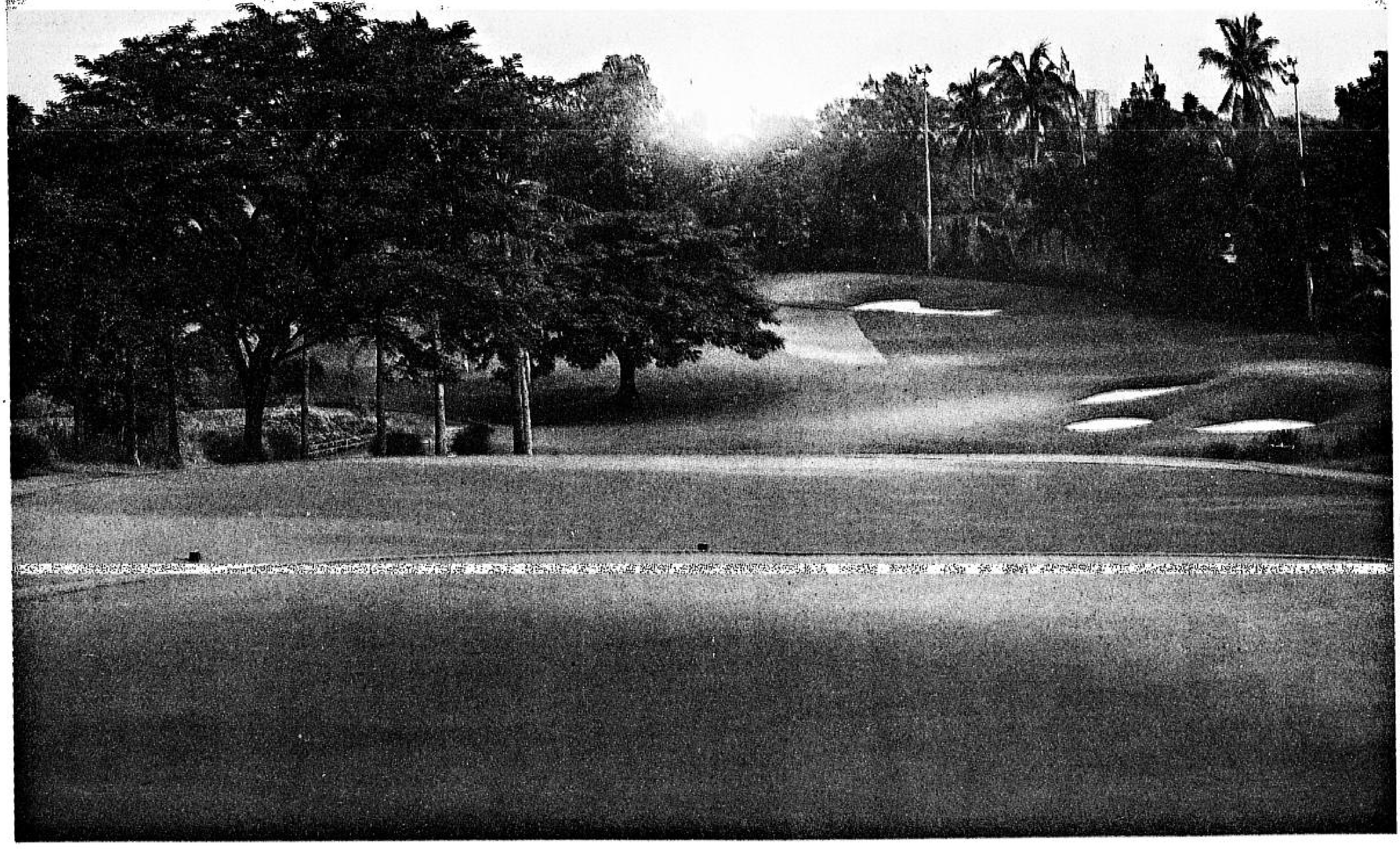
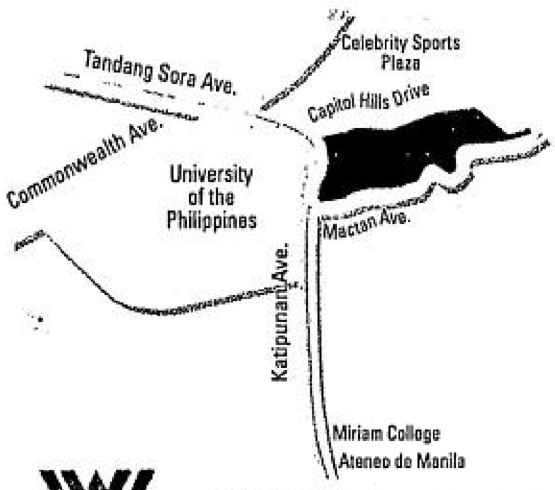
JESS OR LERMA

You only have 29 chances left to enjoy perfect mornings at Ayala Hillside Estates.



HLURB License to Sell Number 06213, 08136, 08143, 09043 and 10437



With only 29 choice lots available at Phase 3B, this is your last chance to own a piece of Ayala Hillside Estates. Right in the middle of bustling Quezon City, you can now be just a drive away from the city's best schools and conveniences and still be tucked away in the calmness and quiet of this beautiful community. Ayala Hillside Estates. Lots are going fast, hurry!

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Hillside Estates

AYALA LAND, INC.

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4 DDB Phils ads finalists in 2004 New York Festivals

DDB Philippines' ads for Teodora, STP, United Print Media Group and its self-promotion Christmas Card last year barged into the finals of the 2004 New York International Advertising Festivals now being held in New York City. All four ads are now vying for Gold, Silver or Bronze World Medals. It is the agency's most number of finalists over the last ten years in international advertising competitions.

"Stamp", a print campaign launch by women's and family rights advocate Teodora got more than seven points enroute to being shortlisted in public service category. It was also the Creative Guild of the Philippines' Diwa Ad of the Month for August 2003, 2004 Diwa Ad of the Year Bronze winner and a London International Advertising Awards finalist last year.

"Broomstick", a Halloween ad for motor oil brand STP was the second DDB finalist. It shows a broomstick parked together with other vehicles in a parking lot. The ad was picked by Campaign Brief Asia, Asia's most creative trade magazine, as one of the best for November and was featured in its "Seen and Noted" section.

The third DDB finalist was an ad for UPMG, one of three-ad series that promotes the advantages of advertising on print. The shows a man's shaven head with this headline scripted on the surface: "On top of top-of-mind awareness and bigger bottom lines is print advertising." The same ad appeared on the pages of this newspaper. The campaign was launched a month prior to last year's Ad Congress in Baguio City.

The fourth DDB finalist was its self-promotion Christmas Card for clients and friends in the industry. Done in out-of-the-box manner, the card was a factory-made Chinese Christmas lantern that was shaped like a bomb. In one of the folded laps, the greeting writes: "Wishing you a mind-blowing holiday and hope that great ideas spark up in the coming year."

"We are proud of this recognition for the agency," says Gil Chua, group president of DDB Philippines. The agency is one of more than 202 DDB offices globally.

Members of DDB's creative team are: Roger Pe, (executive creative director), Erch Valencia, (copywriter), Tom Gumba, Jr. (art director), Manny de Paz (art director), Noah Valdez (visualizer) Christina de Torres, (visualizer), Oden Mateo and Armi Fabregas (producers).

All four ads will be included in the World's Best Book, a prestigious coffee table book containing the finalists and winners from the festival.

For forty-five years, the New York Festivals has honored excellence in advertising and communications media around the world. It is one of the top advertising awards in the world experiencing exponential growth reaching 18,000 entries alone in 2003.

BPI JOINS HONDA CARS SAN PABLO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Working closely with dealerships in creating market demand, BPI Family Savings Bank recently joined Honda Cars San Pablo's weeklong anniversary celebration from July 12 to 17. The event was capped by the launching of the latest Honda passenger car model, Honda Jazz BPI. Family Savings Bank president Alfonso L. Salcedo Jr. graced the event and talked to the audience to show his support to the partnership with Honda Cars. With Salcedo (2nd from right) are (from left) BPI Family Savings Bank AVP Allan Dela Cruz, manager Agnes Aragon, SVP Dave Sarmiento, AVP Jay Santos, and (back row) senior manager Rey Arevalo.

ATENEO JOURNALISTS VISIT THE INQUIRER

Journalists from the Konrad Adenauer Center for Journalism at the Ateneo de Manila University recently visited the Philippine Daily Inquirer. They were welcomed by Inquirer publisher Isagani Yambot (seated, center) who also gave a short talk on the news organization of the company. The group was made up of journalists from different countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including India, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Tonga, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and the Philippines. One of the Filipino members is Ruel de Vera (far right) an Inquirer reporter. For information on tours, call the Inquirer corporate relations office at 897-8808 local 260.

Mozcom offers 100% virus-free guarantee to internet customers

MOZCOM, the country's first commercial Internet Service Provider, recently announced a new initiative called "100 percent Virus-Free", that will give Internet users peace-of-mind when surfing. The new NetProtect line of anti-virus solution is the latest addition to its market-leading portfolio of Internet features and value-added services.

This new solution refers to a family of award-winning and industry-certified commercial anti-virus software that customers can avail on a subscription basis. It spans a range that includes simple, user-friendly, stand-alone consumer versions that can be installed through a CD; to enterprise-wide, multi-site deployments using distributed client-server architectures.

Mozcom NetProtect solutions offer protection to everyone from dialup home-user to broadband corporate clients.

"Customers usually consider anti-virus solutions as a non-critical feature of Internet access - until they get their first virus infection that wipes out their important data. NetProtect provides customers from dialup to broadband with the protection that matches their budget and requirements," said Dick Chiang, Mozcom's COO/CTO. "Customers can avail of postpaid dialup plans with licensed anti-virus protection built-in for as little as P350 per month."

Users are supplied with anti-virus protection through the award-winning technologies of global partners like Sophos and Hauri.

Established in 1994, Mozcom's nationwide pure-IP backbone was the first of its kind. It supplies the infrastructure that runs corporate virtual private networks (VPNs), the campus networks of major educational and research institutions, and true dial-up roaming for mobile users from Northern Luzon to Southern Mindanao.

Mozcom is continually expanding to provide total business solutions. It also specializes on open source, XML, Web Services, and mobile technology, providing anti-virus and anti-spam protection as standard features of its services. For more information on their products and services, visit http://www.mozcom.com or call 848-2606.

U.P. BETA EPSILON FRATERNITY @75 YEARS, 1929-2004 BEYOND ENGINEERING: BROTHERHOOD AND EXCELLENCE!

After a successful kick-off activity by sponsoring the fireworks of the UP Lantern Parade, members of the Beta Epsilon Fraternity assembled themselves with the current fraternity Sweetheart Ms Michelle Angela Matias Reyna at the steps of the Melchor Hall, College of Engineering, University of the Philippines, Diliman. Plans are underway for the for the 75th Diamond Jubilee grand celebration. The festivities will include the Brod Alejandro Melchor lecture seminar, family sportsfest, dedication of the Beta Epsilon Fraternity structures, grand fellowship stag, open tambayan, and Grand Fraternity Ball. As a climax, the Beta Epsilon Fraternity will have the traditional Grand Ball to honor the Fraternity Sweetheart, past and present to be held at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, Mandaluyong City on Aug. 28. For details, please call Brod Stein Macabulos at 0917-811-5633 or email to bernie.abis@find-me.com.ph also check out www.betaepsilon.net

Cocoplans' Class: For a child's educational needs

PARENTS with or without education plans experience the financial demands of sending their children to school in the everyday education expenses. After settling the tuition fees, they have to provide for such school needs like books, allowances, uniforms, unexpected school activities, field trips, and school projects. In the end, these everyday education needs pose a more significant impact on the family budget.

With this in mind, Cocoplans Inc, true to its commitment in giving the market quality products and services, presents Class or Cash Leverage for Academic Assistance. Class is specifically directed towards providing for a child's education needs. It distinguishes itself from the many education plans as a package addressing the basic necessities and everyday expenses that come with going to school. These are the things of importance that are often taken for granted in preparing for education. Cocoplans addresses them because of their importance on the education of the child.

Class provides a creative solution that will empower a child to sustain a good academic performance (books, notebooks, research); make the most of learning activities (field trips, excursions); and build dreams on a well-rounded education (extra-curricular activities).

For more information regarding Class, please contact Cocoplans Customer Service at telephone number 892-4956 to 59 or visit www.cocoplans.com.

CRAVINGS OPENS AT METROWALK IN ORTIGAS

Sun East Continental Food Services, represented above by its president Dr. Romulo Trinidad and Marianne Trinidad, operations manager, recently inaugurated its first restaurant venture - Cravings at Metrowalk Commercial Complex at Meralco Avenue Ortigas. Photo shows the following personalities who cut the ribbon during its formal opening: Dr. Johnny Fuentes, Dra. Judy Fuentes, Salvacion Trinidad, Annie Guerrero, Dr. Romulo Trinidad, Louie Locsin and Marianne Trinidad.

Blue's Clues Day with Anchor 1+ milk at SM Supermalls

ANCHOR 1+ growing up milk recently treated kids to an afternoon of fun and excitement as they got to meet and greet Blue, the most popular Nickelodeon puppy from the award-winning show - Blue's Clues, at SM Megamall and SM City North Edsa.

The activity center at SM Megamall was jam-packed with children, eager to meet and greet Blue. With their Anchor 1+ milk products, they registered together with their parents at the booth for a chance to have their pictures taken with the cute puppy.

Fun games were held where the winners got to take home Anchor 1+ goodie bags with a cool Nickelodeon item to boot. What's more, kids and parents alike got a taste of delicious Anchor 1+ milk, in chocolate and vanilla flavors, at the sampling booth. The kids then ended their day by taking home a framed photo of them with Blue, which will surely occupy a special place in their bedrooms.

Those who missed their chance to meet Blue at SM Megamall had another shot during the Blue's Clues Day at SM City North Edsa. Once again, the mall's entertainment center was filled with kids eager to have their pictures taken with Blue. The lucky winner of the Blue's Clues Blow Out Party at Enchanted Kingdom was also drawn during the SM City North Edsa event. Nathaniel Gallegas from Novaliches got to win a fun-filled day at Enchanted Kingdom with Blue and five of his friends.

What's more, kids can continue the fun during mealtime! Anchor 1+ milk products come with exciting Blue's Clues freebies including bibs, utensils, plates and training cups. These are available at leading stores nationwide until Aug. 30.

Anchor 1+ is a growing up milk nutritionally suited for children aged 1 to 4. It has Nutri-Care to help protect against sickness.

With Anchor 1+, kids get more than proper nutrition, but fun and entertainment as well.

DATUIN'S 'PILLAR OF PEACE' TRAVELS TO DAGUPAN

Abstractionist Joe Datuin assists Dagupan City Mayor Benjamin Lim (right) in un-scrolling the monumental quadriptych 'Pillars of Peace' to kick off his 9th one-man show held last April 29. Exhibited were some 20 paintings and sculptures done in his free-flow style. A collateral activity was a free art workshop for the children of Dagupan. For inquiries, call Joe Datuin at 920-7765 or at his mobile phone at 0917-6157302.

More PEP on pages B5 to B7 and B10

Bits 'n Clips

PowerVision's confidence and assertiveness training

POWERVISION, with media partner Trabaho.com, announces its back-to-back seminar workshops designed to enhance self-esteem and equip people with skills to practice confidence in their work and personal life. Learn techniques to be truly confident in thought, feelings, actions, relationships and your leadership style through "Leading with Confidence Inside Out", a whole-day seminar to be held on Aug. 3. "Assertiveness Training for Technical Professionals will be held in three afternoon sessions on Aug. 10, 24 and Sept. 7, for a total of 12 hours. Both seminars will be handled by Jean Lim, career counselor and trainor. To ensure participants practice what they learned, she will personally provide free email coaching for one month. Seminars will be held at PSE Centre (Tektite), Ortigas. Combo rates for both seminars and group discounts available. Limited slots per class. For inquiries and reservations, call 687-3416 or email mjlim@pworld.net.ph.

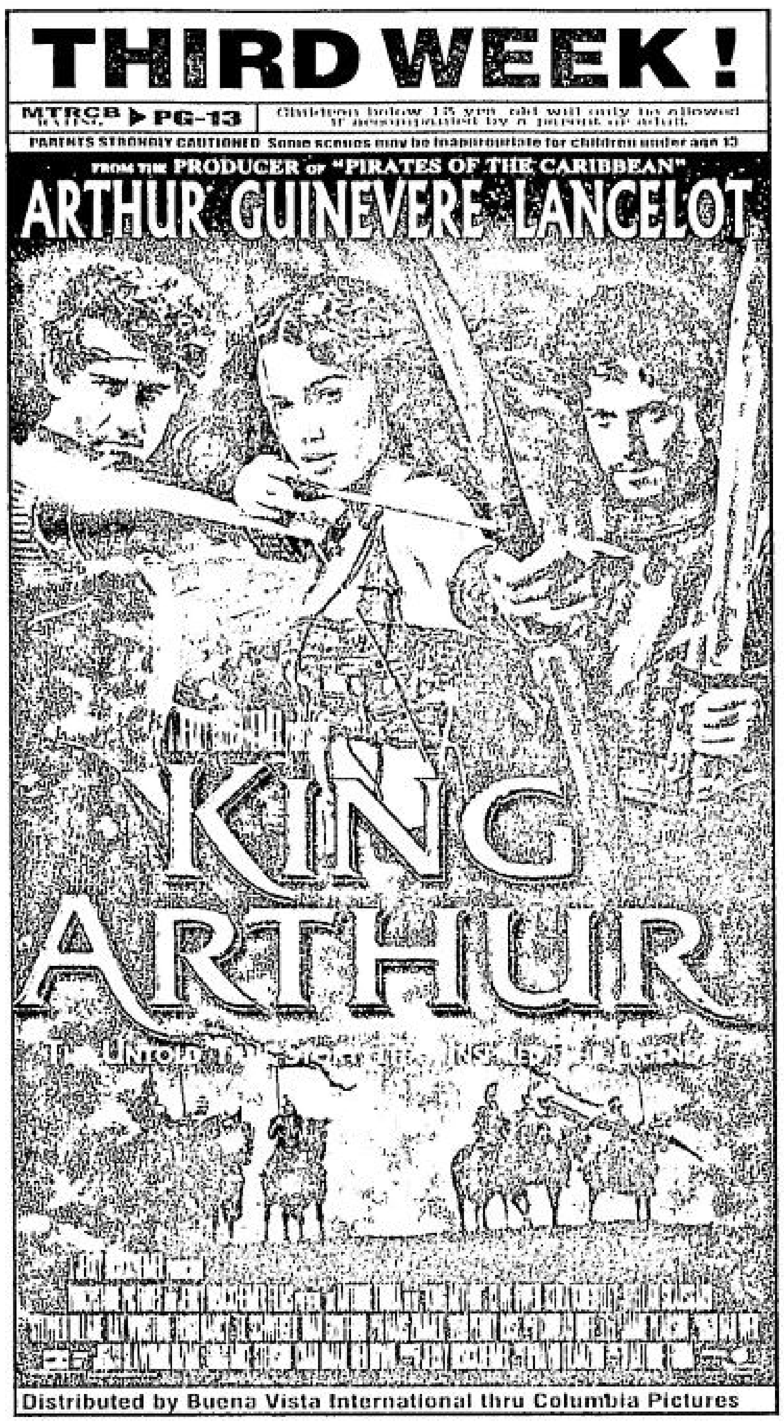
Prizes at Cotton USA Cool Music Madness

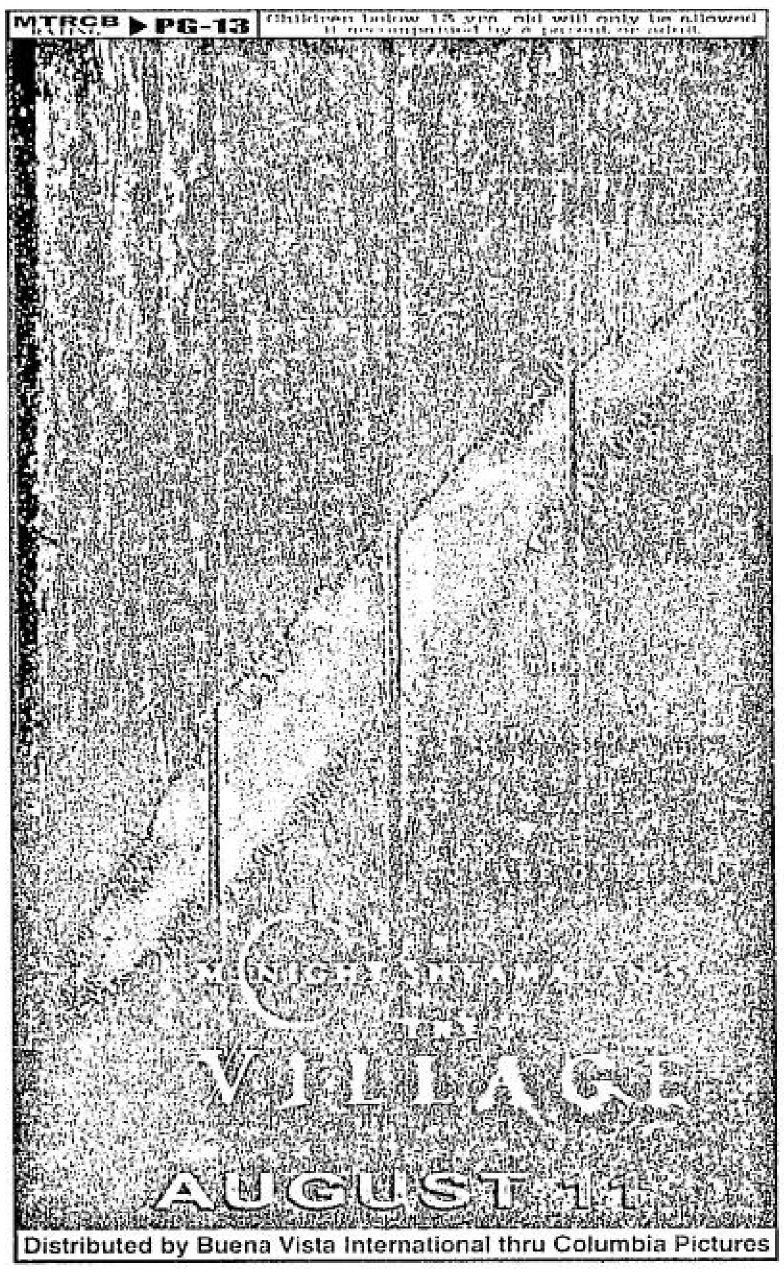
SIX local bands will compete for the grand prize of P50,000 in the Cotton USA Cool Music Madness band breakout grand finals on Aug. 8 at SM Megamall. The grand finalists are Spill, Menaya, Milk N Money, Popclinic, Bleucheese, and Matilda. For the grand finals, the 2nd place winner will receive P30,000 while 3rd place will receive P20,000. A consolation prize of P10,000 will also be given to the non-winning bands. The Cotton USA Cool Music Madness grand raffle draw will also happen on the same day. At stake are Sony Mini-Components, Nokia 6600 phones, Apple I-pods, P5,000 worth of gift certificates from SM Department Store, P3,000 worth of gift certificates from Odyssey, Nike and National Bookstore, and P2,000 worth of gift certificates from Pizza Hut, Starbucks and SM Cinema,

Businessmen organize 'Pamia'

A GROUP of Chinese-Filipino businessmen engaged in the importation and assembly of China made motorcycles and scooters recently organized "Pamia" the acronym of Philippine Association of Motorcycle Importers and Assemblers Inc. The group consisting of eleven founding members is headed by its president, Enrique Co of Yusho Motor Sales Inc; treasurer Joseph Man of Fortune Motorcycle Mfg Corp and secretary general lawyer Virgilio Lagunilla of the Nitura Malabanan Lagunilla Mendoza & Gaddi Law Firm. The association is geared to promote the use of Chinese motorcycles in the country and develop its quality to give the consuming public an alternative choice of quality but cheaper motorbikes.

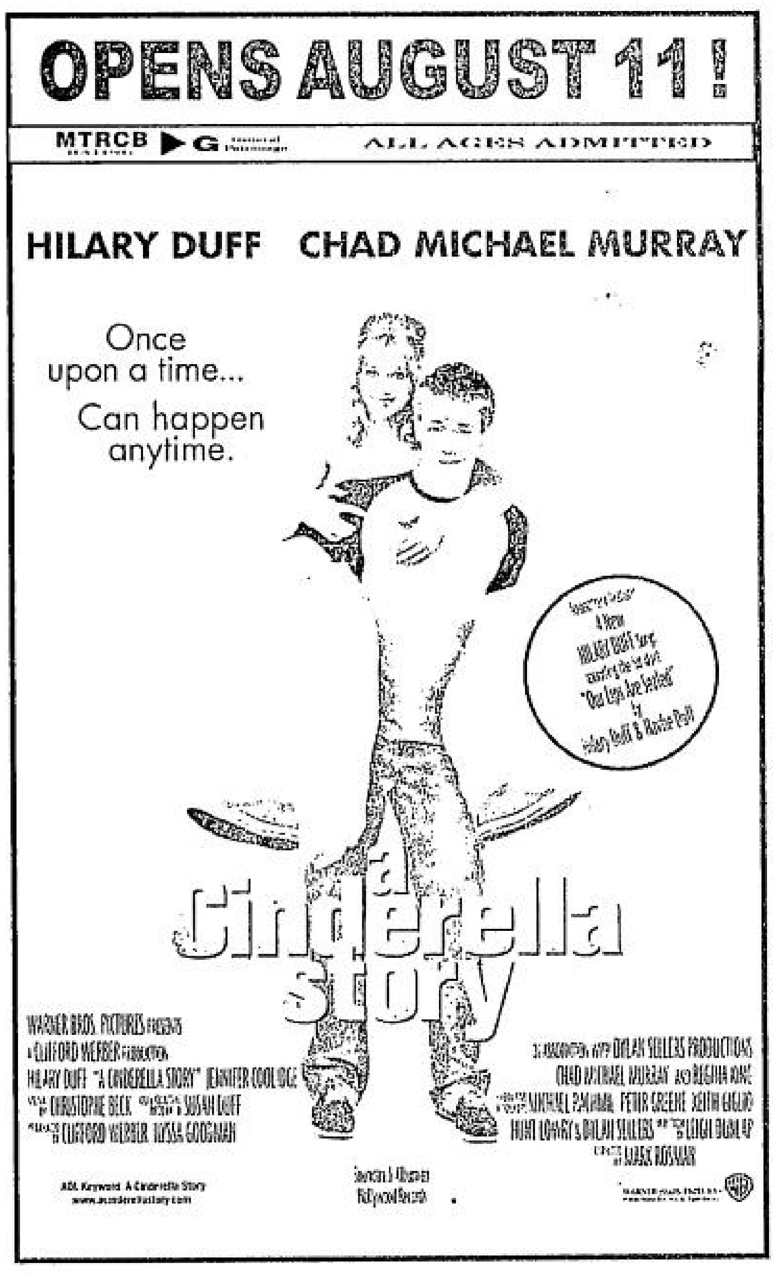
OPENS AUG. 4
MTRCB ▶ PG-13
MANGINGINIG KAYO SA TAKOT!!!
Dead People
THEY'RE DYING TO MEET YOU

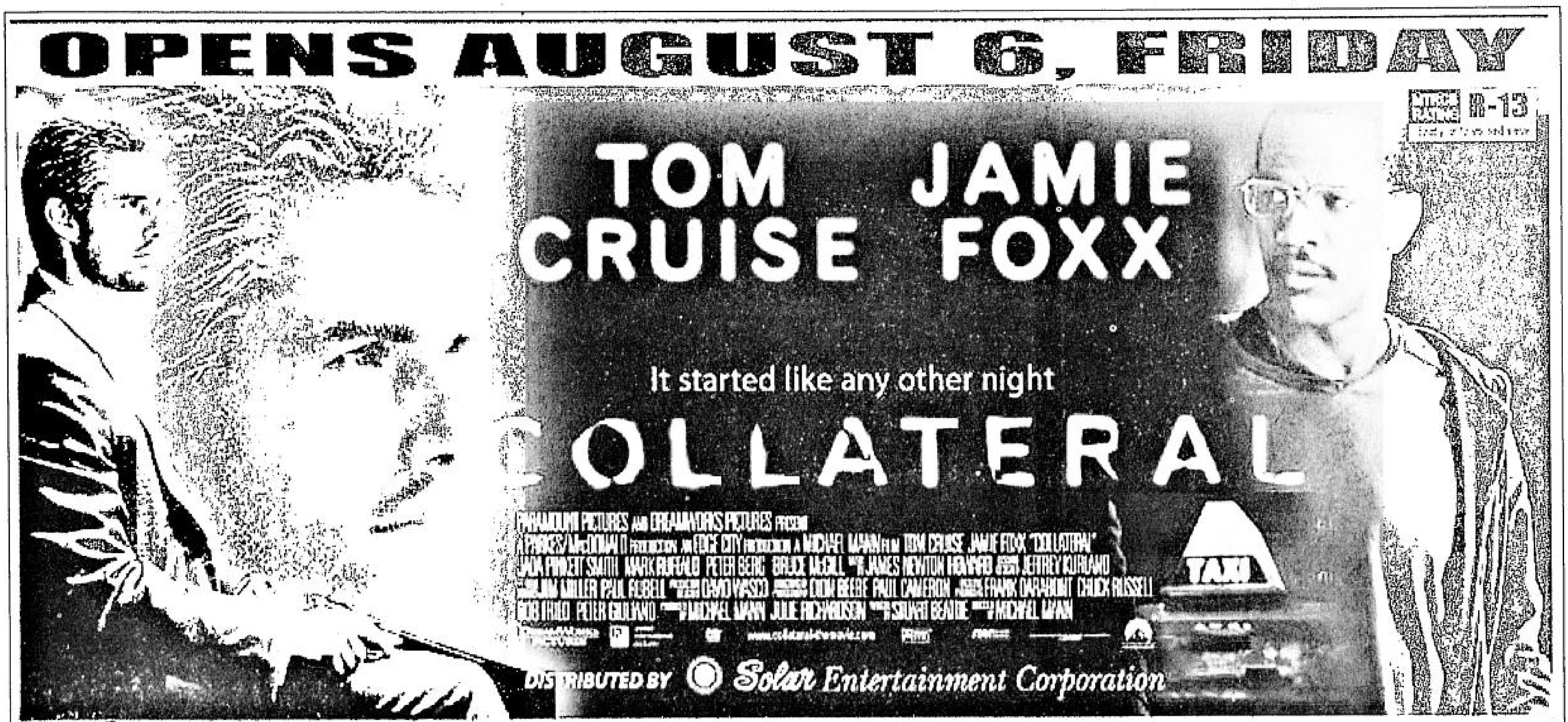

THIRD WEEK!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED Some scenes may be inappropriate for children under age 13
FROM THE PRODUCER OF "PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN"
ARTHUR GUINEVERE LANCELOT
KING ARTHUR
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
THE VILLAGE
AUGUST 11
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

OPENS AUGUST 11
The Most Graceful and Beautiful Film of the Year
Gwyneth PALTROW
Daniel CRAIG
Sylvia

MTRCB ▶ PG-13
WILL SMITH
I, ROBOT
THREE LAWS PROTECT US FROM THEM.. BUT LAWS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN.
NOW SHOWING


OPENS AUGUST 11!
MTRCB ▶ G General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
HILARY DUFF
CHAD MICHAEL MURRAY
Once upon a time...
Can happen anytime.
a Cinderella story


OPENS AUGUST 6, FRIDAY
R-13
TOM CRUISE
JAMIE FOXX
It started like any other night
COLLATERAL
TAXI
DISTRIBUTED BY Solar Entertainment Corporation

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Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA 632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1 THX I, ROBOT 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
2 CATWOMAN 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
3 IMELDA 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
5 ELLA ENCHANTED 10:10, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
6 CATWOMAN 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
7 KING ARTHUR 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00
8 SPIDER-MAN 2 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
9 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
10 ALONG CAME POLLY 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas
Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 CATWOMAN 10:10, 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:00
2 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
3 I, ROBOT 10:10, 12:30, 2.50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40
5 ELLA ENCHANTED 10:20, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9.40
6 CATWOMAN 11:55, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30
7 KING ARTHUR 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10 00

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1 IMELDA 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 9:00
2 CATWOMAN 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 10:35
3 KING ARTHUR 10:40, 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 9:00
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7.50, 10:30
5 I, ROBOT 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 9:00
6 ELLA ENCHANTED 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6 50, 9:00
7 CATWOMAN 10:25, 1:05, 3:45, 6:25, 9:05
8 SPIDER-MAN 2 10:35, 1:05, 3:35, 6:10, 9:00

NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW 935-3229 / 31

1 CATWOMAN 10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:25
2 I, ROBOT 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:20
3 KING ARTHUR 11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15. 8:40
4 ALONG CAME POLLY 10:50, 12:50, 2:45, 4:40, 6.35, 8:30
5 ELLA ENCHANTED 11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8.30
6 SPIDER-MAN 2 11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
7 THE PRINCE AND ME 11:30, 1:45, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30
8 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS 10:30, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Citisquare MALABON 288-0985/2575
1 I, ROBOT
2 CATWOMAN
3 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
4 ELLA ENCHANTED

CAINTA 240-4661
1 CATWOMAN
2 ELLA ENCHANTED
3 I, ROBOT
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE

STA. ROSA (049)837-0907
1 CATWOMAN
2 MEAN GIRLS
3 THE PRINCE AND ME
4 I, ROBOT
5 BEAUTIFUL LIFE

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5870
1 CATWOMAN
2 KING ARTHUR
3 THE PRINCE AND ME
4 IMELDA
5 I, ROBOT

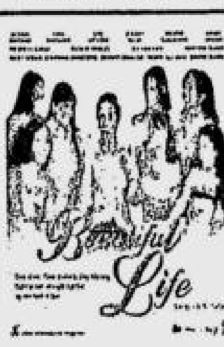
DASMARIÑAS 852-2125 / 416-4332
1 ALONG CAME POLLY
2 I, ROBOT
3 CATWOMAN
4 PERLAS
5 THE PRINCE AND ME

STARMILLS Sn Fernando, Pampanga 875-1927 / 961-5270
1 ALONG CAME POLLY
2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
3 CATWOMAN
4 THE PRINCE AND ME
5 CATWOMAN
6 I, ROBOT

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858
1 CATWOMAN
2 I, ROBOT
3 ELLA ENCHANTED
4 CATWOMAN
5 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
6 ALONG CAME POLLY

BACOLOD 441-04[illegible]/59
1 CATWOMAN
2 IMELDA
3 KING ARTHUR
4 I, ROBOT
5 ELLA ENCHANTED
6 MEAN GIRLS

ILOILO 336-8070/78
1 CATWOMAN
2 I, ROBOT
3 SPARTAN
4 KING ARTHUR
5 LIBERATED 2
6 ALONG CAME POLLY



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MOVIE PASS
MOVIE PASS

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

BITS & Clips

Catering seminar

CATERERS, restaurateurs and others planning to start or manage a catering business are invited by ProActive Center for Traning (Pact) to its "Managing a Catering Business Seminar-Workshop" on Aug. 2, 12 noon to 5 p.m., at Ipanema Bar & Restaurant, Level 2 Eastwood City Walk, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City. Reservations are currently being accepted on a first-come-first-served basis at tel. no. 687-1787 or mobile no. 0916-8226053. Only twenty participants will be accepted. Seminar fee is P4,500 per participant inclusive of field trip to food and equipment suppliers and a restaurant visit, manual and handouts, snacks, certificate of completion, and workshop materials and equipment.

Abenson, BPI 0% installment

ABENSON, in partnership with BPI Credit Cards, offer 0 percent installment up to 12 months on a wide selection of appliances from July 16 to Aug. 8. Get the appliances you fancy at absolutely no interest installment. With BPI Credit Cards, cardholders have two credit line: one for straight charge and the other for SIP or Special Installment Plan. Having two credit lines, BPI is able to manage customer purchases such that 0 percent transactions are not charged interest despite a minimum payment of the non-SIP credit line. On top of the 0 percent promotions, BPI Express Credit cardholders earn extra 100 Frequent User points when they buy from Abenson. With additional frequent user points customers can now redeem items of higher value. Hurry avail of these promotions now.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX
3 Dolby CATWOMAN 12 00 nn 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9 00 pm
4 SDDS I, ROBOT 12:50 pm 3:30 pm 6:10 pm 8.50 pm
5 dts ELLA ENCHANTED 11.40 am 2 00 pm 4:20 pm 6:40 pm 9:00 pm
6 Dolby IMELDA 11 00 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 9.00 pm
7 Dolby BEAUTIFUL LIFE 11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8 55 pm

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Aug 6	GARY V. CONCERT
Aug 7	UAAP: La Salle vs. U E
Aug 8	UAAP: F E U vs. Ateneo
Aug 12	UAAP: 2nd ROUND
Aug 13	Night of the Champions The Repeat

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	KARELASYON
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	HIRAM
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1 & 2	I ROBOT / CATWOMAN
PREMIERE THEATRE	IMELDA

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	GHOST HOUSE (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-2	PERLAS
CINEMA-3	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PRINCE & ME
CINEMA-6	KILL BILL VOL. 2
CINEMA-7	WEREWOLF
CINEMA-8	LIBERATED 2
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-12	KING ARTHUR
CINEMA-14	ALONG CAME POLLY
CINEMA-15	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PINAS)	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-1	LADY KILLERS
CINEMA-2	I ROBOT
CINEMA-4	RESERVED

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

Product FILES

Reloading with Touch Mobile's AutoloadMax

Jollibee
touch

NOW, you can connect with family members wherever you are. Touch Mobile AutoloadMAX is available in more than 200,000 dealers nationwide including Shell Select, 7-11, selected Jollibee stores, and other local establishments. Loading credits has never been this convenient and affordable!

Touch Mobile AutoloadMAX offers the lowest electronic load amount ever, at only P10. Beyond P10, users can easily reload in P1 increments all the way up to P150! Big rewards are also in store for Touch Mobile subscribers, such as a 10 percent bonus load for their every 3rd reload.

"We at Touch Mobile understand our subscribers' needs to communicate with their loved ones, especially when an emergency arises. Increased distribution for wider Autoload Max accessibility is one of our top priorities. This makes it easier and convenient for them to reload their cellphones wherever they are. This is in line with our mission to make our services readily available to our loyal subscribers nationwide", says Veca Villafuerte, senior Marketing Manager for Touch Mobile.

Now you can reload easily and rest easy with Touch Mobile, the network where family matters most.

Cloverfest campaign

RIDING high on the pompous festivities and the colorful pageantry that made Philippine fiestas a much-anticipated event, Clover Chips launches its new campaign with the battlecry "Join ka na sa Festival ng Sarap". Clover is set to participate in a string of fun fiesta-themed activities nationwide. Adding spice to the merrymaking is the introduction of the new Chili and Cheese flavor. Clover Chili and Cheese is an extremely crunchy snack packed with the irresistible goodness of cheese and the pizzazz of chili.

CLOVER FEST
Join ka na sa festival ng sarap!

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
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E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
For inquiries, call:
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GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

CATWOMAN 11:35, 2:10, 4:45 7:20, 10:05 GP
CATWOMAN 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30 GP
I, ROBOT 11:45, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:20 PG-13
ELLA ENCHANTED 12:40, 3:00, 5:20 7:40, 10:20 GP

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

ELLA ENCHANTED GP 12:00, 2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:00	I, ROBOT PG13 11:50,2:25,5:00,7:35,10:10	CATWOMAN GP 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50
IMELDA GP 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00	ALONG CAME POLLY PG13 1:00,3:00,5:00,7:00,9:00	CATWOMAN GP 2 50,3:15,5:40,8:05,10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 CATWOMAN 10:50 , 1:05 , 3:20 , 5:35 , 7:50 , 10:10 GP
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TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
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MUSIC MUSEUM
AUG 13-14 & 20-21 NOAH'S BIGBOAT 10AM & 2PM
AUG 10-11 17-18 24-25 & 31 NYOY VOLANTE & NINA 9 00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-4726 OR 721-0635

Tang City premier outlet at Glorietta now open

TANG City Crab and Shanghai Restaurant — the hottest sensation in Shanghai and Chinese cuisine — opens its doors at the Glorietta of the Ayala Center in Makati, allowing mall goers and patrons a chance to sample the restaurant's variety of dishes.

As the latest addition in Glorietta's restaurant row, Tang City Crab and Shanghai Restaurant offers something more than just the usual Chinese dishes.

Because it specializes in Shanghai dishes, patrons are sure to rave over the authenticity of the way the dishes are prepared, cooked and presented.

Aside from these Shanghai dishes, Tang City Crab and Shanghai Restaurant offers the widest variety of crabs — King Crabs, Flower Crabs, Male and Female Crabs — in 33 dishes giving patrons the most extensive choice that is sure to please any palate.

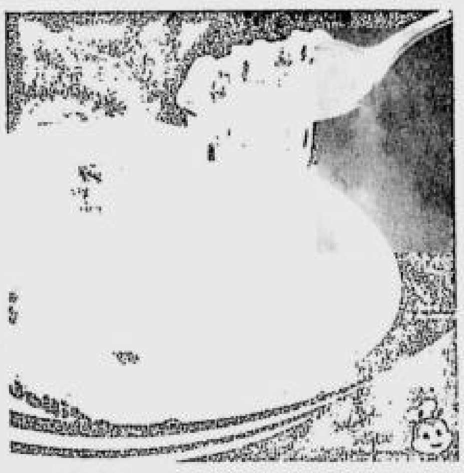
Aside from the 33 mouth-watering crab dishes, the other specialty dishes are the Shanghai Tong Po Pork or Braised Square Pork, Fried or Steamed Layered Pao, and the authentic dimsum dishes that will surely make you feel like you are having an authentic dimsum breakfast, lunch or dinner in Hong Kong.

The restaurant's interiors are also done to give patrons the feel and ambience of having a meal in a cosmopolitan restaurant in bustling Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Tang City Crab and Shanghai Restaurant in Ayala Center's Glorietta is open for patrons but it will have its grand opening celebration on Aug. 11.

The Tang City chain of restaurants has 8 outlets conveniently located in different areas of Metro Manila: taste Buds, Level 2 of Robinson's place Ermita; ground floor of the Valero Carpark on Salcedo Street in Makati; Foodparks at the Enterprise Center; Food Odyssey at the LKG Tower; Marketplace at Times Plaza in Manila; and at the SM Megamall and SM City North Edsa.

Product FILES



Jollibee Chicken Sotanghon

FOOD-LOVERS as we are, Pinoys would immediately turn to a meal or snack as an antidote to the cold weather. Make your day even more satisfying as you treat yourself with any of your most-loved Jollibee meals paired with a hot bowl of soothing Chicken Sotanghon Soup. This flavorful, hot Chicken Sotanghon Soup brings you sotanghon noodles in chicken broth topped with real chicken chunks, crunchy garlic, spring onions and a slice of egg that is perfect on the table. Add the Chicken Sotanghon Soup to any value meal for only P18 as a perfect complement to Jollibee's delectable and lip-smackin' menu. You can also enjoy this mouth-watering soup solo at only P22.

Bits Clips

Ayala Corp executive receives TOM award

ENGINEER Arthur Tan, president and chief executive officer of Integrated Microelectronics Inc (IMI) and, concurrently, managing director of Ayala Corporation, was recently named as The Outstanding Mapuan (TOM) Awardee for the year 2004 in the field of Electronics and Information Technology. Tan graduated from the School of Electronics and Communications Engineering of Mapua Institute of Technology in 1982. The TOM Award is an annual awards which recognizes the most outstanding graduates of Mapua in the various fields of professional practice and achievers in the various fields of service and endeavors.

AMA appoints new academic head

THE AMA Education System (AMAES) Board of Trustees announced last week the appointment of Dr. Patrick Alain Azanza as the new chief academic officer of AMA Computer University and its subsidiary schools. A well-known HRD practitioner, author and academician, Dr. Azanza brings with him a rich experience in managing academic institutions. His main thrust as the new head of the Academic Affairs Department is to develop AMA as a center of academic excellence in IT and other related fields. Dr. Azanza is concurrently the first vice president for HRD of the AMA Group of Companies.

ASI's new technical director

ALLIANCE Software Inc, a leading Philippine business software developer, recently appointed Sherwin Yu as its technical director. Yu brings to Alliance Software years of technical expertise and industry experience, having worked in the IT field for over 12 years. As technical director, he now leads Alliance's application development outsourcing efforts.

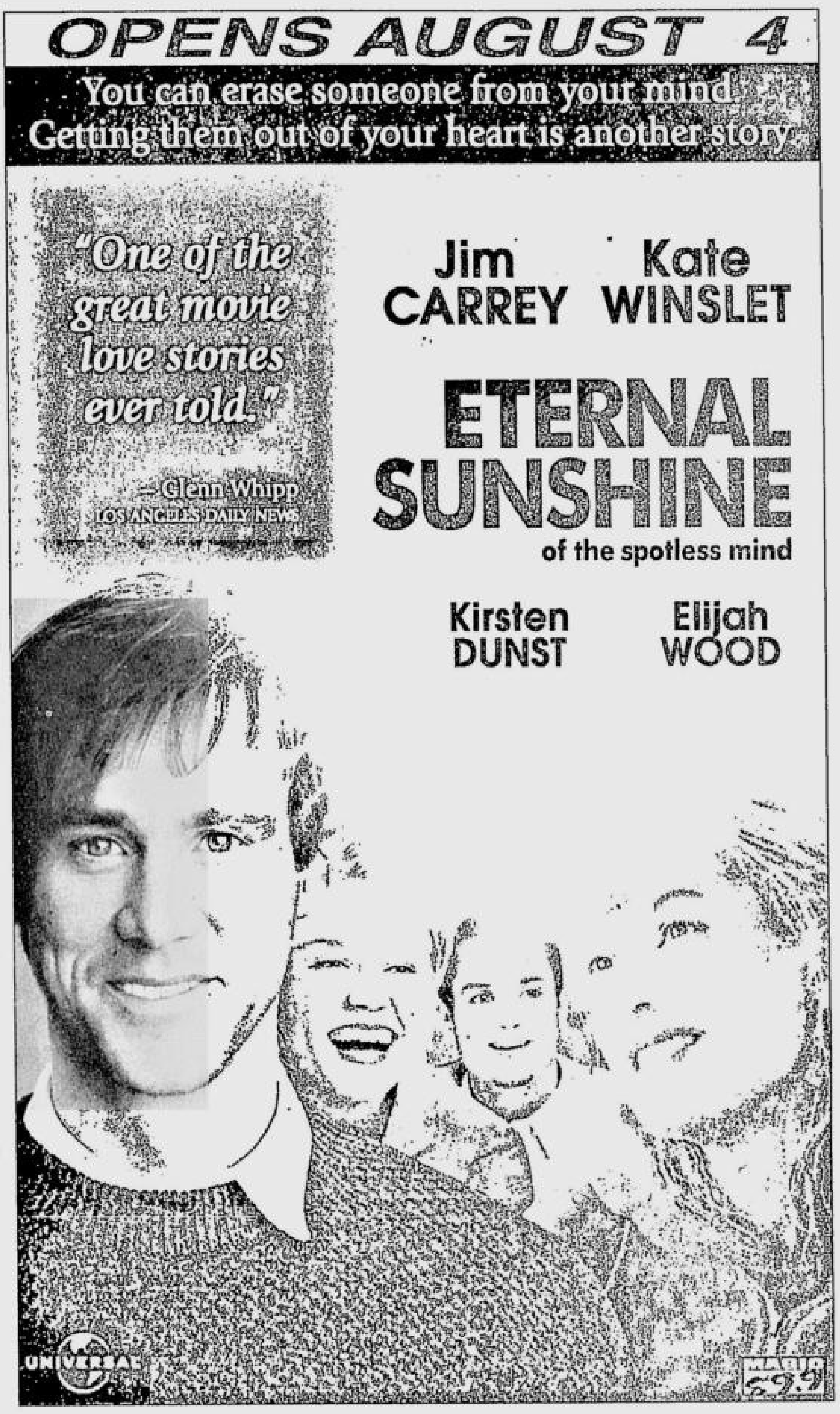
Pizza Hut promo

TROOP to the nearest Pizza Hut because from June 24 to Aug. 9, it's feasting and fun for the lunch crowd at all Pizza Hut branches. Bring your lunch partners and have the Dine-In Feast for 2. For just P199, get 2 Buddy Pan Lover's Pizzas, 2 orders of Cream of Mushroom Soup, an order of French Fries, and 2 glasses of Nestea Iced Tea. That's P88 in savings and a hassle-free lunch with your friends. No cleaning up, no cold lunches, just the great dine-in experience at Pizza Hut. So get these lunchtime buddy pan pizza packages, available from Monday to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in all Pizza Hut restaurants. And no worries for those on a tight schedule. You can enjoy the Pizza Hut goodness in the comfort of your homes of offices. Call 911-1111 and avail of the special Take Out or Delivery Package: 4 Buddy Pan Lover's pizzas, 2 orders of Spaghetti with Meatsauce, 1 loaf of garlic bread, 1 1.5 Pepsi liter all for just P399. Don't miss this special lunchtime treat. Hurry, go to your nearest Pizza Hut branch now.

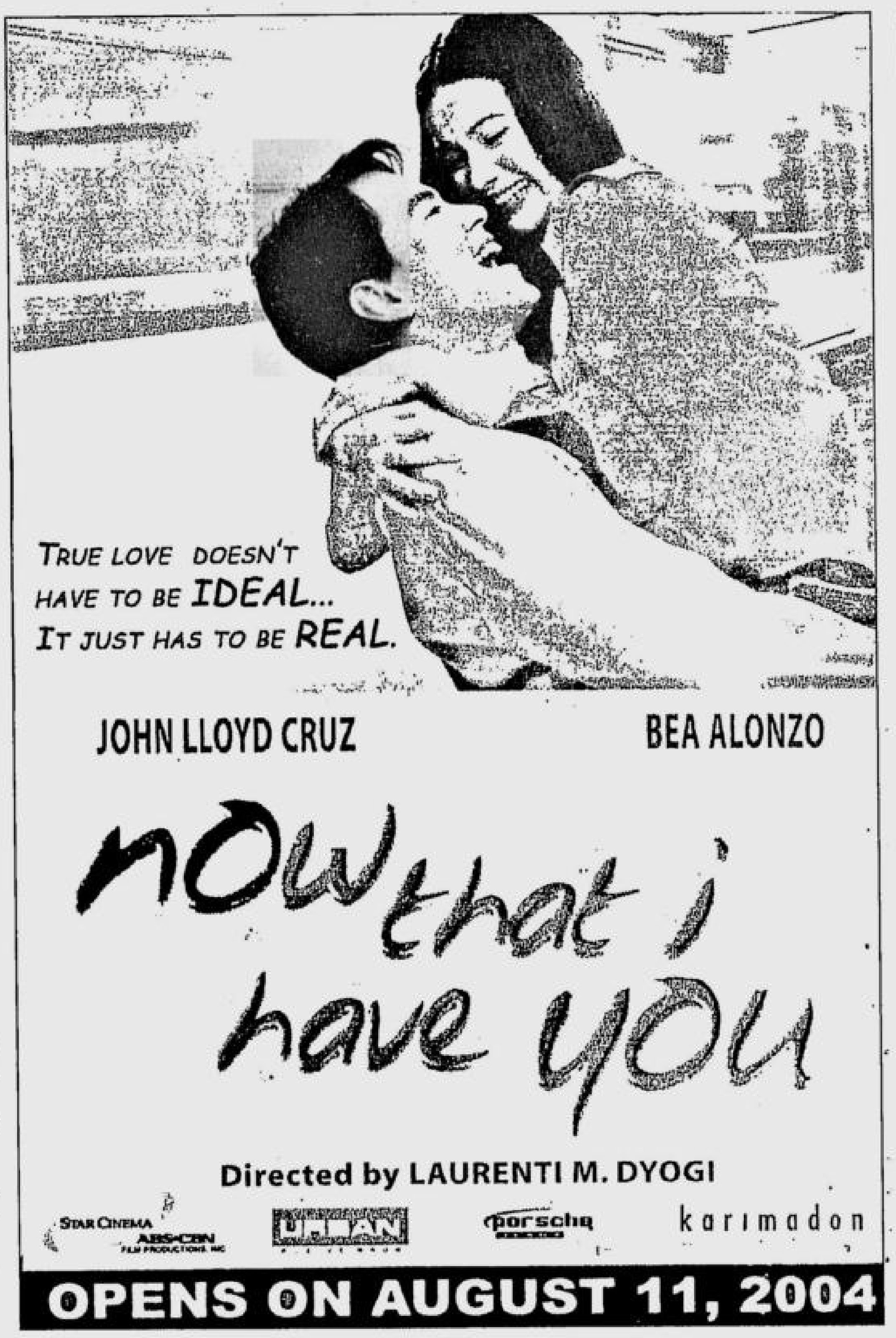
Tirona Foundation reunion

THE TIRONA Foundation Inc (TFI) envisions a grand reunion every two years not only as a family get-together but also as a fun way by which more clan members can support the foundation's initial projects. These include a donation of books and educational materials to the Sen. Emilio Tria Tirona High School in Gahak, Kawit, Cavite, and financial assistance to deserving seminarians. The first grand reunion was held on Aug. 2002 and was attended by over 500 members. The second grand reunion will be on Sunday, Aug. 15, at the Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmariñas, Cavite. A fund-raising golf tournament is also scheduled on Aug. 10, preceding the reunion proper. Members of the Tirona clan are requested to call 920-1071 (c/o Helen or Blenda) to register and update the information profile used in the Tirona family tree research project. More detailed inquiries can also be made via email at ncttirona@edsamail.com.ph

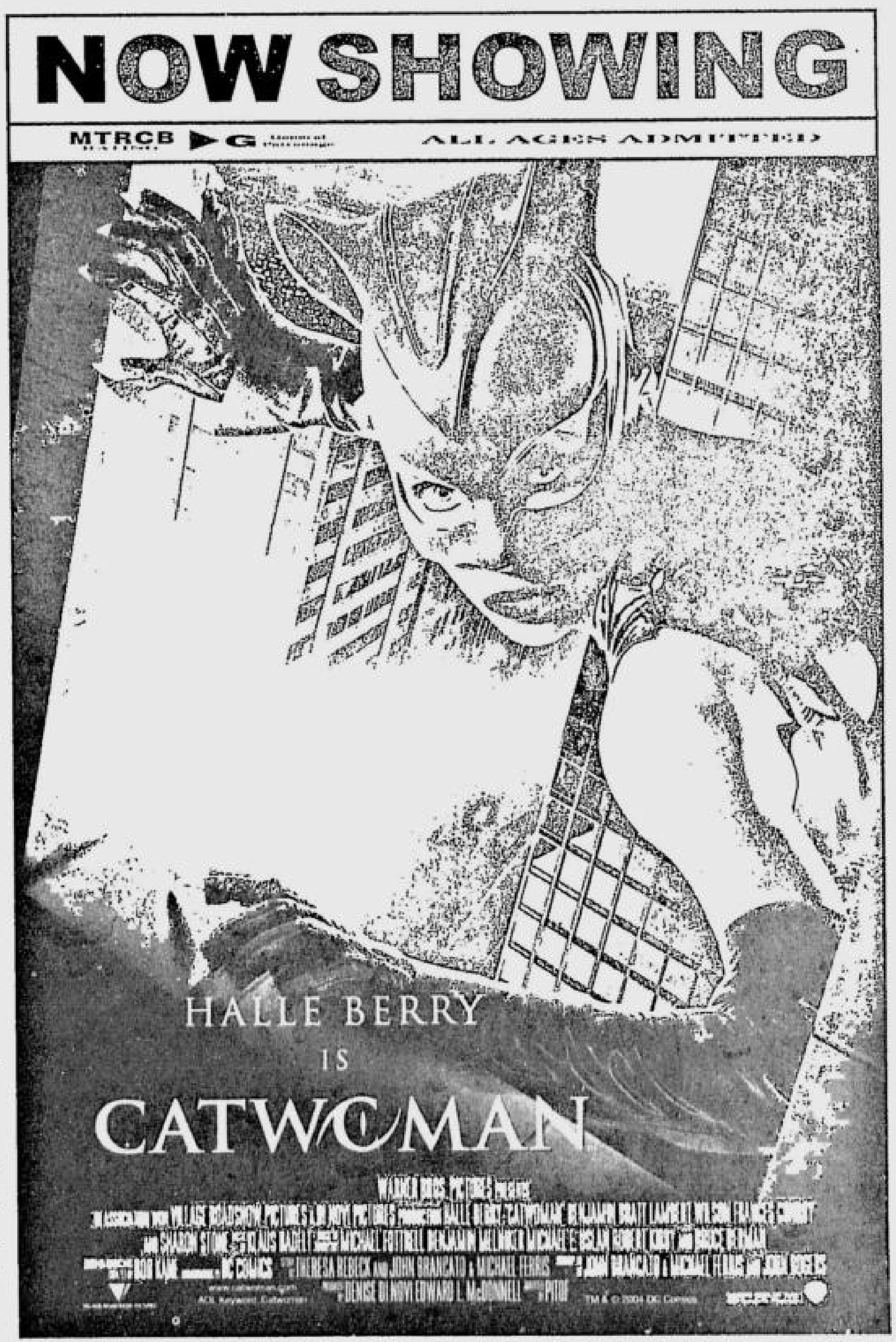
SM CINEMA
CATWOMAN
GET WHIPPED WITH THESE PRIZES!
Just buy (2) two movie tickets to see **Catwoman** and grab hold of the special, limited Catwoman stickers to be given away on the first regular showing day of Catwoman at all SM Cinema branches, except Marilao.
But that's not all, get whipped with any of these fabulous prizes in the raffle draw* to be held on August 16, 2004 at WATC Corporate Office.
(7) Nokia 3100
(50) Skin Care Gift Set from Dolce Vita
(10) Catwoman Golf Umbrella
(10) Catwoman T-Shirts
(10) Sweatbands with digi-clock
Promo runs from July 28 - August 8, 2004
See posters for mechanics.
*The raffle promo is exclusive to SM Sta. Mesa, Southmall, Fairview, Iloilo, Davao & Cagayan de Oro branches only.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3868, Series of 2004
now showing
DIAL 8339999 for screening schedules
Grab!
Enjoy the Catwoman movie meal, now available at the Snack Bar!
Give the Gift of Entertainment. Give the SM Movie Cards.
Get Complimentary Passes when you buy in bulk. For orders, call 831-7000 local 2680 to 2682.



OPENS AUGUST 4
You can erase someone from your mind. Getting them out of your heart is another story.
"One of the great movie love stories ever told." —Glenn Whipp, LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS
Jim CARREY Kate WINSLET
ETERNAL SUNSHINE of the spotless mind
Kirsten DUNST Elijah WOOD



TRUE LOVE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE IDEAL... IT JUST HAS TO BE REAL.
JOHN LLOYD CRUZ BEA ALONZO
now that i have you
Directed by LAURENTI M. DYOGI
OPENS ON AUGUST 11, 2004



NOW SHOWING
MTRCB PG ALL AGES ADMITTED
HALLE BERRY IS CATWOMAN

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Bank ties up with search engine to extend e-services

By Fran D. Katigbak

THINK of the mobile phone as a wireless Internet extension of your PC that keeps you online ahd feeds you the latest on credit-card shopping deals.

This is now made possible by the partnership of Yahoo! Asia and HSBC in putting up new mobile services for consumers.

During the launch, held recently at the Garden Court of Shangri-la Plaza mall, Yahoo! Asia introduced its local mobile services portal, http://asia.mobile.yahoo.com/ph.

The portal offers cell phone downloads such as graphics, logos, wallpapers, ringtones and games. It also allows anyone with a Yahoo! Messenger account or a mobile phone to stay connected online with friends, family or coworkers.

Yvonne Tey, head of marketing for Yahoo! Southeast Asia, described the portal as an accessible mass product for the growing number of mobile phone subscribers.

"Nowadays everybody has a wireless handset, people ranging from 6 to 66 years old," she said.

"I think, at the end of the day, Yahoo! is always on the lookout for what our users are interested in, what they want and what they require."

Yahoo! Asia built the mobile portal to enhance its relationship with customers, Tey added. "It serves as an extension, from the PC to the mobile handphone."

"For example," she explained, "you could be messaging (online through Yahoo!) with a colleague at work. But if that person has to rush off to a meeting and you still have to talk about work-related issues, you can text him from your computer to his mobile phone."

YAHOO! SOUTHEAST ASIA

As for HSBC, developing mobile services with Yahoo! is part of the global alliance it has maintained with the Internet giant since 2000.

"It's basically a commitment to spend several million dollars with them each year on exciting projects where we can take advantage of Yahoo's core companies. It's basically e-business," explained HSBC's Oliver Jones, head of e-business marketing.

What the teamup has produced is another portal, http://mobile.hsbc.com.ph, which caters to HSBC cardholders.

Jones said HSBC sees the site as a way of addressing issues that surround the promotions of its biggest consumer product, the credit card.

"In promotions, you basically encourage a lot of people to spend using their credit cards through 0-percent installment, instant discounts. Every month we really send out coupons and fliers that show all the special offers.

"The paper and fliers, however, didn't really deliver that kind of instant information on demand—when you want it. And the mobile portal is a perfect application for that.

"We thought what we can do is build a mobile portal, consolidate all those deals and information, then encourage our customers to go and visit it."

The HSBC portal features online credit card application, plus it categorizes deals and promotions by location and by the type of product or service.

Once the GPRS of any cell phone is set up, accessing the site is easy. HSBC will also send cardholders text messages that tell them when to visit the portal for news on the latest deals and promos.

"You normally have your mobile wherever you go," Tey stressed, "but you don't remember all the promotions, discounts and offers because there are so many out there. The portal allows you to access all the promotions and deals from your mobile phone."

Mom's hobby...

From page B2

parang nakakahiya, that's why we did this."

As of now, they have created thousands of designs and still think of something new each day.

Prime Legacy bags also came up with modern designs, accentuated with beads that they buy from Manila.

But, Jocelyn says almost 85 percent of their materials come from local sources.

She is also very proud of their products, saying quality is their utmost concern. "We make sure our products are not substandards. This is one of the best characteristics that we can guarantee to our buyers," she adds.

Bazaars

Jocelyn says they participate in different fairs and bazaars in Metro Manila on invitation of concerned agencies like the Department of Trade and the Department of Tourism. She claims that the customers' responses are always overwhelming.

"They love the abaca bags with beaded designs and French knots. These are our best sellers. It's so easy for the customers to notice our products because they're unique."

But most of their products are for the higher income market, since a single bag costs from P200 to P2,500, depending on how intricate the design is.

She says their products click, especially when they participate in bazaars in the Ayala Town Center and in Rockwell in Makati.

There are bags that take them two days to finish due to intricacies.

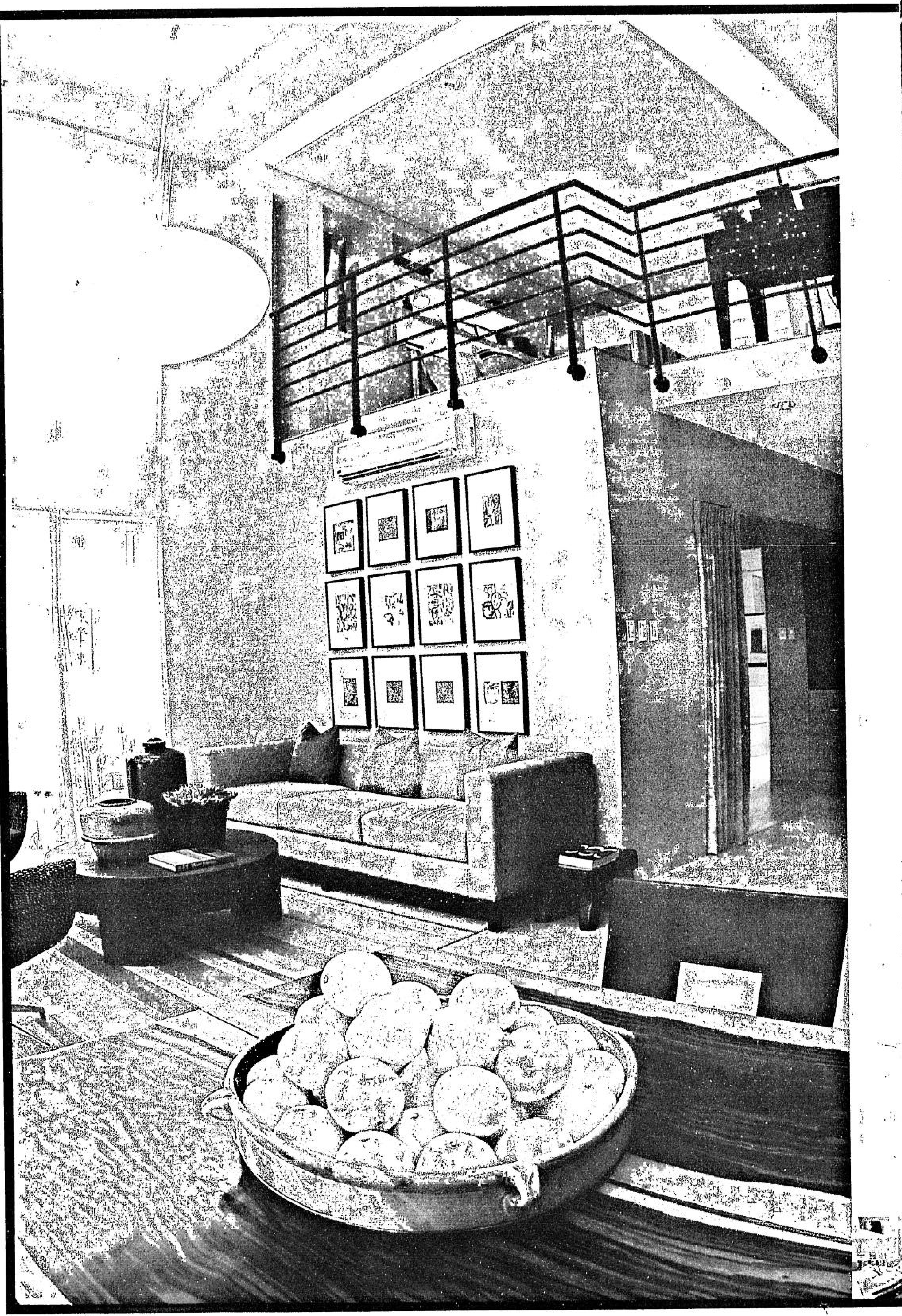
"Bags with French knots and beads are usually the most expensive among our products because they are difficult to do and they require time."

Export

Aside from the bags that they are usually selling locally, they also supply products to buyers outside the country.

They started to have direct buyers abroad only last year, as buyers in Metro Manila were the ones who would export their products.

Foreign clients who have seen Prime Legacy's products have already expressed interest in placing orders and the Nacions are hoping that this will soon materialize.



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Ex-activist hopes mushroom culture would spawn trade

By Juan Escandor Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

SAN FERNANDO, Camarines Sur—Edison Sibulo, 51, had to draw out his creativity in setting up the first private laboratory of mushroom spawn (seedling) in Camarines Sur.

But his efforts paid off. His eight-month-old mushroom business now serves as his family's source of income.

Sibulo could have done the cultured mushroom business ten years ago but he lacked the knowledge of growing the mushroom spawn.

The scarcity of supply of the mushroom spawn, cultured only in the laboratories of the Department of Agriculture (DA), University of the Philippines in Los Baños and Central Luzon State University prevented him from pursuing his business plan.

He wanted to grow his own mushroom spawn to ensure continuous production. When the chance to learn the technology of growing the spawn came, he grabbed it.

Laboratory

In January last year, he attended a DA training-seminar on growing mushroom spawn. Ten months later, the DA gave the thumbs-up to the laboratory he built which was a turnkey project.

Using available materials and adopting innovative ways to isolate a small room in his house, Sibulo's laboratory satisfies the required minimum protocol of sterilization.

IN A GLASS closet, the fruiting bags that simulate rotten logs continuously produce full-grown mushroom for 45 days.

WITH the right technology, the oyster mushroom (Pleurotus osteatus) grows inside the house. PHOTOS BY JUAN ESCANDOR JR.

"The sterile environment ensures uncontaminated materials that produce the spawn. Otherwise, the time and effort you invest will just lay to waste when other kinds of microorganism contaminate the work area and grow with the pure culture," Sibulo explains.

He further explained that the pure culture is the first step in producing cultured mushroom. He uses a solution of potato juice, sugar and gelatin as medium in growing white-colored fungus in sterilized bottle. He adds that the pure culture spawns from tissues of full-grown mushroom inoculated into the medium.

The next step involves the inoculation of bits of the white-colored fungus into another solution in a sterilized bottle to grow the mother culture. The grown mother culture becomes the spawn that grows to full-blown mushroom.

All the media used must be sterilized.

The fruiting bag, the final medium composed of rice husks and straws and sawdust wrapped in plastic bags, needs at least four hours of steaming to sterilize.

Cooling off and inoculating the fruiting bags with peanut-sized bits of spawn from the mother culture to grow full-blown mushroom are also done in the laboratory.

Sibulo says he spent P95 for the production of pure and mother cultures and fruiting bag.

A fruiting bag can continuously produce for 45 consecutive days. He sells a kilo of cleaned cultured mushroom at P200. He also sells mother culture to mushroom growers here.

The cultured oyster mushroom (Pleurotus osteatus) that he and his family produce in their house somewhat resembles the taste and look of real oyster. He boasts of the claimed medicinal properties of the oyster mushroom, which the medical department of the Tokyo University has documented to be anti-cancer agent.

Challenges

But there are challenges he has to face. He says he has to make do with innovations for the maintenance of standard environment in cultured mushroom production.

Since he cannot afford yet to own a gadget that could sustain the room humidity of his mushroom production room, he uses an ordinary pesticide sprayer to maintain a certain level of humidity during sunny days.

Sibulo is determined to improve the technology he learned.

He used to work with an American company, Johnson Controls, that managed the security of the Saudi Arabian government.

If not for his active involvement with the underground mass movement in the '70s while a student at the University of the East, he would have finished electronic engineering.

By the time he perfects a mushroom production technology appropriate in his community, he plans to seek the help of the local government to disperse the technology to households and help improve livelihood opportunities in his town.

He dreams that mushroom production would give his town a name and perhaps he can make it a big business someday.

There's plenty of headroom

even for a human skyscraper.

Bulgarian Giant
Assen Ivanov Giorgiev, who weighs 256 kilos and 9.19 feet in height, poses next to a car too small for him.

And nobody else has this but us.

Vertical clearance: 20 ft. high
he world's tallest man is listed as more than 9 ft. tall—a physical marvel that's ite common for the Watusis of Africa. Impressive as it may seem, we didn't design ir lofts for very tall people.

'e made our lofts literally lofty for you to have limitless room for ideas on how you ill do your own interiors. Being bare, each loft will become your statement— ur own huge canvas.

Creativity can't be boxed.
his is your only chance to unleash the repressed artist in you. No other gh-rise has lofts that can give you as much freedom for self-expression. ery room, every alcove, every nook and cranny can be your mural, ur pastiche, your tryptiche or your atelier.

nd space is abundant for productive minds. There's nothing here cramp your style. And your changing moods.

Creativity must be nurtured.
nd that's why we take care of the headaches. We give you a departure om the standard Burbs. Rockwell is a little city that's contained. affic is not sanctioned here. Security runs 24-hours daily. a time of anxiety attacks, that's one less worry.

Despite the peace, we rock. There is always something a-buzz like surprising structures that change the skyline every now and then. Not to mention bargain haunts as well as designer shops, traditional and quirky buys, mainstream and transitional events plus a global choice of restaurants and bars for a diverse lifestyle.

The muses rule here.
The choice is yours—from 1 to 2 bedroom units for the lofts. Or look into our towers' yin-yang interiors, hardwood floors, ventilated kitchens, floor to ceiling windows and walk-in closets. (Fashionistas, dress yourselves to the nines. In sixes and sevens too.)

Forty-six floors up, you can detox in our skylounge or "The Wind". At the garden encased gym, 3 badminton courts, organic spa, children's playground, sundecks, roof gardens and 25-meter swimming pool, you can burn fat or angst. And be phat!

Joya at Rockwell
TOWERS & LOFTS

No reason for you to "hit the roof".
Even parking is abundant—5 levels of secured space. With all these going for you, you can live your dreams and never fear that the sky will drop on your head.

Even if you are a Watusi.

Joya Lofts and Tower Units
Only for the chosen few and only a few left.
To inquire, please call 890-6888/ 756-5022 or fax 896-2251 or drop by at the Rockwell Information Center, Rockwell Drive, cor. Estrella St., Makati. Visit our model unit at the Power Plant Mall. It won't be long before it will be a tall order to have a unit available for you.

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HBO receives 124 Emmy nominations

HBO received 124 Primetime Emmy nominations, the most in the network's history, and the most of all networks for the third year in a row, for the upcoming 56th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards, which were announced in Los Angeles.

Angels in America not only tops HBO's list of nominees, but also leads all shows with 21 nominations. Sex and the City received 11 nominations, while Carnivale 7 nominations.

HBO's Emmy nominations this year include: 21 nominations overall for ANGELS IN AMERICA, including Outstanding Miniseries, Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie (Al Pacino), 2 for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Miniseries or Movie (Emma Thompson and Meryl Streep), 4 for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Miniseries or Movie (Justin Kirk, Ben Shenkman, Patrick Wilson, Jeffrey Wright), Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Miniseries or Movie (Mary-Louise Parker), Outstanding Directing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Mike Nichols), and Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Tony Kushner).

11 nominations overall for Sex and the City, including Outstanding Comedy Series, Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series (Sarah Jessica Parker), 3 for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series (Kim Cattrall, Kristin Davis, Cynthia Nixon), Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series (Tim Van Patten), and 2 for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series (Michael Patrick King, Julie Rottenberg).

11 nominations overall for Deadwood, including Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series (Brad Dourif), Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series (Robin Weigert), Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series (Walter Hill), and Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series (David Milch).

9 nominations overall for And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself, including Outstanding Made for Television Movie, Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie (Antonio Banderas), and Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Larry Gelbart).

9 nominations overall for Something the Lord Made, including Outstanding Made for Television Movie, 2 for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie (Mos Def, Alan Rickman), Outstanding Directing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Joseph Sargent), and Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Robert Caswell and Peter Silverman).

7 nominations overall for Carnivale.

5 nominations overall for Iron Jawed Angels, including Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Miniseries or a Movie (Anjelica Huston) and Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special (Eugenia Bostwick-Singer, Jennifer Friedes, Sally Robinson and Raymond Singer).

The Primetime Emmy Awards will be announced on 19 September in Los Angeles.

Viewers in Asia can catch the following HBO Original Programs: Now through August: Season 3 of Six Feet Under every Tuesday at 10 p.m. Now to 6 August: Season 5 of Sex and the City, every Friday at 10:30 p.m. 17 August to 28 December: 6th and final season of Sex and the City, every Tuesday at 10 p.m. October: Asian television premiere of Carnivale. December: Asian television premiere of Angels in America.

Singapore-based HBO Asia is able to bring the best of Hollywood to Asia first because of its exclusive licensing deals with the five major Hollywood studios - Columbia/TriStar, DreamWorks, Paramount Pictures, Universal Studios and Warner Bros. In addition to the proprietary and award-winning HBO Original programs that are produced exclusively for HBO viewers, HBO works with a large number of major independent production companies to secure exclusive rights to a host of quality movies. HBO Asia is a joint venture of media giants Paramount Films, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Time Warner Entertainment and Universal Studios.

BPI marks 153rd anniversary as most awarded bank

THE BANK of the Philippine Islands (BPI) is celebrating its 153rd anniversary today, Aug. 1.

Established on that date in 1851, BPI is thus the oldest commercial bank in the Philippines and in all of Southeast Asia. It was originally known as El Banco Español Filipino de Isabel II. It acquired its present name during the American occupation.

For certain, the bank has a lot to show in terms of accomplishments in its more than one and a half century of existence. It issued the first paper money, called *pesos fuertes*, and financed the first train service, the first telephone system, the first electric power utility, and first steamship service in the country.

It is not one to rest on its laurel, though. In modern times, the bank introduced the first 24-hour automated teller machine and, in quick succession, the debit card, Internet virtual banking, express phone banking, and other innovations.

Today, the bank operates the most extensive banking network, with more than 700 online branches, 1,000 onsite and offsite automated teller machines, and 9,000 point-of-sale terminals in various merchant establishments throughout the country.

Its call center, capable of handling 800,000 calls a month, operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, holidays included.

No wonder, BPI is the most awarded bank in the country. The latest honors it has won come from Global Finance and Euromoney, which names it the best domestic bank; AsiaMoney which names it the Best Domestic FX Bank; and Reader's Digest Asia, which gives it the superbrand award in banking.

For nine years, Far Eastern Economic Review named the bank the most financially sound institution. Likewise, Euromoney, Global Finance, AsiaMoney Finance Asia and Asian Banker have given it their highest awards year after year.

The exact award titles vary, but all these financial magazines consistently describe the bank as the best. It is the best commercial bank, best retail bank, best investment bank, best emerging markets bank, best Internet bank, best in corporate governance, best in investor relations, and best in financial management, among others.

A Tradition of Leadership

PHILIPPINE GUE KAW SY ASSOCIATION AND YOUTH DIVISION HOLD FORUM

The Philippine Gue Kaw Sy Association and the Philippine Gue Kaw Sy Association Youth Division successfully held a forum entitled 'Awakening the Minds of the Youth: A Dialog with Kaisa' last June at the 4th floor of the Philippine Gue Kaw Sy Association building. Keynote speakers from Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran (Kaisa) are Joaquin Sy, incumbent president of Kaisa and Teresita Ang-See, the founding president. A presentation centering on Kaisa and our social responsibilities to bridge the gap between the Filipino and Chinese cultures were also discussed. A lively exchange of ideas ensued from the open forum, which contributed to the increase of the awareness of the participants. Attendees from Lin Pok Sy Association, represented by Sonny Sy, and from the Sy Clan Toastmasters Club represented by Jimmy Silangan and Aquino Dy, were able to grace this event with their presence. Kaisa is a Tsinoy NGO which aims to integrate the Chinese Filipino or Tsinoys into mainstream society so that they could be active participants in the task of nation building.

Lee Kum Kee wins awards in 2004

LEE Kum Kee continues to be voted as a Gold SuperBrand locally in the "Seasoning Products" category at the "Reader's Digest SuperBrands" survey in 2004. For six consecutive years, Lee Kum Kee wins votes as the favorite choice of seasoning products in Hong Kong. It has also retained the Gold SuperBrand status in the same category for Asia for three consecutive years which has qualified Lee Kum Kee for the "Hall of Fame" status in 2003. All these awards prove that Lee Kum Kee is dedicated to stringent quality standards and is trustworthy in the mind of consumers.

Apart from the brands being singled out and voted by Reader's Digest readers in the 6 markets surveyed - Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines, the sampling frame was expanded to include consumers in these six countries via telephone interviews. The total sample size is 1,000 consumers per market, totaling 6,000 for the region.

Respondents from six markets were asked to name their single preferred brand in 41 categories of products and services. The voted brands were rated quantitatively and qualitatively based on five determining factors: quality, value, trustworthiness, strong image and understanding of customer needs. SuperBrand Gold award winners achieved their status by receiving the highest ratings from consumers and their performance ranks significantly above others in the category.

Eddie Lee, chair of Lee Kum Kee Co Ltd says "After we received two prestigious awards at national-level: China Top Brand and 100 Star Enterprises of Overseas Chinese in China. Last year, we are delighted to receive the SuperBrand Awards again for Hong Kong and Asia this year and we appreciated the support from all our customers. We are also honored to receive awards from Yahoo! And Sina voted by professionals, recognizing our achievements on Lee Kum Kee's website."

Lee Kum Kee is the worldwide famous brand name for premium, authentic Chinese sauces. Following the creation of oyster sauce in the late 19th century, its creator Lee Kam Sheung founded the company Lee Kum Kee in Guangdong Province in 1888. Today, Lee Kum Kee is the worldwide leader in oyster sauce, which has become a key ingredient to many Chinese dishes from different regions around the world.

"We are committed to promote Chinese gourmet and deliver the best sauces and condiment products to our consumers worldwide, to provide consumers with a variety of tastes to suite their palette and enjoyment in convenient cooking." adds Lee.

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Bayawan
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of Bayawan thru its BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of the following items:

BID NO.	ITEMS	ABC	SOURCE OF FUNDS	DATE/TIME	
				Pre-bid Conference	Deadline/Opening Of Bids
04-081	Office Supplies for Various Offices	754,596.53	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-082	Tools for Lathe Machine	200,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-083	Service Vehicles (3 units)	3,200,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-084	Scientific Equipment, Light vehicle maintenance & electrical tool & equip	508,666.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-085	Communication Equipment	590,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-086	Various Firefighting Equipment	289,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-087	Spare Parts, Materials for Various Equipment	752,150.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-088	Construction Materials for Various Projects	494,600.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-089	Construction Materials for Various Projects	261,052.63	Trust Fund (BIARSP)	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-090	Installation & Lighting facilities for Plaza Basketball Court	185,940.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-091	Construction Materials for Various Projects	1,354,730.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-092	Various Equipment for TESDA	130,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-093	Construction Materials for Various Projects	482,985.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-094	Construction Materials for Concreting of F. Teologio St.	317,160.00	Trust Fund (LMP)	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-095	Construction Materials for Rehabilitation of River Dike Control	252,600.00	Calamity Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-096	Construction Materials for Various Projects	349,842.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-097	Electrical, Power & Energy Structure materials for GSO	156,510.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-098	Construction Materials for Perimeter Fencing & Goatery Project	222,600.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004
04-099	Construction Materials for Repair of Public Market Buildings	130,075.00	General Fund	2:00 PM 05Aug2004	10:30 AM 16Aug2004

Place of Delivery: FOB BAYAWAN CITY WAREHOUSE
Period of Delivery: 12 Calendar Days upon receipt of Purchase Order
Warranty Required: 3 months for supplies; 1 year for equipment. 10% Retention money or special bank guarantee will be withheld to cover such warranty obligation.

In order to qualify for participation in the public bidding, the bidders should conform to all the eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 23 of IRR-A of Republic Act No. 9184.

Bid documents shall be available at the BAC Office, Annex Building Sports Complex Building, LGU Bayawan City starting July 30, 2004 upon payment of non-refundable fee of five pesos (P 5.00) per page.

Bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three separate envelopes in the bid boxes at the BAC Office, Bayawan City on or before the deadline of submission of bids.

All particulars relative to eligibility process, opening and evaluation of bids, post-qualification and award of contract shall be governed by the applicable provisions of RA. 9184.

The City of Bayawan reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or formality therein and to accept bids considered responsive and most advantageous to the government.

Details of bid items are posted at the official website of the City of Bayawan, the www.bayawancity.gov.ph, the G-EPS, and at the GSO Bulletin Boards, Supply Section, LGU Bayawan City. For more information, please contact the BAC Secretariat at Telephone Numbers (035) 531-0638 and 531-0020 local 107.

(SGD) PANCHO F. VILLASIS
City Administrator
Chairman, BAC

(PDI–July 25 & Aug. 1, 2004)

SHRINE OF ST. THERESE SHOWROOM BLESSING

The Shrine of St. Therese of the Child Jesus recently held the blessing of its showroom with Fr. Joey Españo of the Military Ordinate officiating the ceremonies. Present during the event are Niña Pañares, valued client from Central Bank (3rd from left), Corazon Zuñiga, account management officer of Magnificat Ventures Corp (4th from left) and Oel Razon, VP sales of Magnificat Ventures Corp (6th from left).

A DIFFERENT CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE

San Miguel Super Dry is proud to take part in this year's much awaited Cinemanila International Film Festival which ran in all Greenbelt cinemas last July 1 to July 12. A showcase of internationally acclaimed films, Cinemanila championed the causes of art films here and abroad. Cinemanila 2004 also showed off contemporary Filipino films which have competed internationally. In fact, these films became one of the major highlights of the festival. The Cinemanila 2004 served as a testament to San Miguel Super Dry's continuous dedication in recognizing 'more than the usual' and highly artistic films. Look forward to more exciting and one-of-a-kind events like these in the future from San Miguel Super Dry.

Product FILES

Tootsie Roll makes a comeback

IF YOU'RE wondering what happened to the chocolatey brand that became way too popular to kids of all ages during the 80s, you might just be surprised at how much Tootsie Roll has been gaining momentum and fame abroad. Neither it reached extinction nor petitioned by the tooth fairy, Tootsie Roll has just only evolved to become a brand that does not only cater kids but adults as well. Among the signature sweets under the umbrella brand of Tootsie Roll are Mason Dots, Charleston Chews, Sugar Daddys, Junior Mints and Charms Blow-Pops. With a formula that lasted for more than 100 years, Tootsie Roll is one hot brand to look forward to. Watch out for Tootsie Roll-inspired merchandise coming your way. Interested licensees are also invited to be part of the brand's sweet success. For licensing opportunities, contact Empire International Merchandising Corp (EIMC) at 722-4311 or 722-4325 or email empirent@mozcom.com.

Tootsie Roll
CHARMS
DOTS
BLOW POP
Tootsie Roll
POPS
Junior Mints
The classic brands have come back...

Republic of the Philippines
MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MIAA Administration Building, MIA Road, Pasay City, Metro Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Manila International Airport Authority is inviting all interested and authorized proprietors, corporations and entities to apply for eligibility and submit bid proposals for the project: ***SUPPLY OF 1599 SETS OF MIAA OFFICE UNIFORMS.***

The categories for the bid include: male and female office staff and officers; engineering and operations (male); male and female public and media affairs office; male and female airport police personnel; medical and firefighters. The scope of work includes measurement taking deliveries and repairs.

The approved budget for the contract in the amount of ***Seven Million Six Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Two Hundred Pesos (PHP7,675,200)*** will be sourced through the Corporate Funds of the Authority.

The winning bidder must completely deliver the uniforms within ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of the approved Work Order.

All interested parties are invited to submit their Letter of Intent and procure the Eligibility requirements from The Secretariat, Bids and Awards Committee 2, Office of the AGM-Finance and Administration, 2nd Level, MIAA Administration Building, NAIA Complex, Pasay City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00) from 06 August 2004 to 10 August 2004.

BAC shall use a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria to determine the eligibility of prospective bidders. As such, non-submission of the required eligibility documents will result in the disqualification of prospective bidders. A two (2) stage bidding process shall be followed.

SCHEDULE OF BIDDING ACTIVITIES

1. Pre-bid Conference	18 August 2004, 2:00 p.m. MIAA Board Room 4th Level, MIAA Admin Bldg. NAIA Complex, Pasay City
2. Deadline for Submission of Eligibility Documents and Opening of Technical Proposal	01 September 2004, 2:00 p.m. MIAA Board Room 4th Level, MIAA Admin. Bldg., NAIA Complex, Pasay City
3. Notice of Eligibility	08 September 2004
4. Opening of Bid Proposal	15 September 2004, 2:00 p.m. MIAA Board Room 4th Level, MIAA Admin. Bldg., NAIA Complex, Pasay City

The Manila International Airport Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any defect or informality, and assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the bidders for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bids and to accept the offer most advantageous to the government. Any questions arising from the herein compliance shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. MARCELINO R. YUMOL, JR.**
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee 2

(PDI – July 25 & August 1, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Telephone No.: 743-83-01 to 23

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTANT SERVICES)

Philippines
Second Women's Health Safe Motherhood Project (2WHSMP)
CONSULTING SERVICES
Grant No. TF051880

Request for Expressions of Interest

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a Grant from the Policy and Human Resources Development Fund (PHRD) through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to payments under the contract for the Identification of the Poor for the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) Sponsored Program.

The Department of Health now invites eligible consulting firms to express their interest in providing the services. The interested consultants must have the following qualifications: (1) substantial track record in large area survey methods; (2) Experience in the design, implementation and analysis of large-scale population surveys; (3) the research team should be composed of individuals who have expertise to mount large scale surveys and manage large databases; and (4) knowledgeable with the health care delivery systems in the barangay,municipal and provincial levels especially for reproductive health programs.

The consultant must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of all similar assignments undertaken and experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills of key staff, job capacity of the firm, etc.)

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997, January 1999 and May 2004).

Expressions of interest and all the requested information from the consultants must be delivered to the address below by no later than August 16, 2004.

ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Chairperson
Central Office Bids and Awards Committee
1st Floor, Bldg. 6, San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. # 7438301 loc. 1601, 1651, 1302, 1304, 1326
Telefax No. 7416665
Email: whsmp@doh.gov.ph

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the afore-given address during office hours.

(Sgd.) **ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**
Undersecretary
Chairperson, Central Office Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – August 1, 2004)

ATTENTION : PROPERTY OWNERS

We are looking for high traffic sites suitable for fastfood/ convenience store concepts and bank branches for clients nationwide. If you have a property for lease or sale, we invite you to mail the following to Dondon Duero, Site Development Director:

- photocopy of land title
- vicinity map of proposed business site
- applicant's address & contact numbers
- basic lease/sale terms and conditions

All documents will be deemed confidential. Owners of qualified areas will be immediately notified.

FRANCHISE ONE CORPORATION
11th Floor, DPC Place
2322 Don Chino Roces Ext., Makati City
Tel. nos. 889-8590 / 889-5013

Franchise One

BMHI
BCDA Management and Holdings, Inc.

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The BCDA Management & Holdings, Inc. (BMHI) invites interested contractors to submit application for eligibility and, if found eligible, to bid subsequently for the project stated below:

Contract Package Name and Location	Scope of Works	IAC Category and Classification	PCAB License Category	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)/Source of Funds	Project Duration
Fencing of Maysapang Creek PDS-Taguig Access Road, Taguig, Metro Manila	Fencing of Maysapang Creek PDS-Taguig Access Road	At least Small "B" with an allowable range of contract cost of at least P3M	At least Category "C" or "D"	P1,500,000.00/BMHI Corporate Funds	90 calendar days

Prospective contractors should have completed a similar contract for permanent fencing works.

Applications for Eligibility (legal, technical and financial documents and statement) shall be evaluated using "PASS/FAIL" criteria set forth in the Instructions to Applicants for Eligibility and to Bid. Only Eligible Bidders shall be invited by BMHI to participate in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the ABC shall be evaluated based on the contractor's offer for the contract under bidding, and shall be subject to detailed evaluation, and the lowest responsive bidder to post qualification before any award is made. Bid prices submitted higher than the ABC shall be rejected and returned outright.

For those interested, Application for Eligibility and Eligibility Forms will be available for issuance on 06-09 August 2004, upon submission of a Letter of Intent addressed to the Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) and payment of a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Two Thousand Pesos Only (P2,000.00) from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Small Conference Room, Main Lobby, BCDA Corporate Center, 2/F Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st Street, Corner 2nd Avenue, Crescent Park, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila. Duly accomplished Application for Eligibility and Eligibility Forms shall be submitted not later than 09-16 August 2004 at the address mentioned above.

Should you need any further information or clarification regarding the Project, you may get in touch with **Atty. Peter Paul Andrew Flores** of the BAC-BMHI Technical Working Group at tel. no. 816-0990.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA GEORGINA DJ JOTA**
BAC Chairperson

(PDI - July 25 & Aug. 1, 2004)

JOB OPENINGS

★ **BOOKKEEPER**
- Female, at least 23 years old
- Computer literate
- BSBA major in Accounting

★ **ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN**
- Female, at least 23 years old
- Computer literate
- Library Science graduate

★ **JANITOR / JANITRESS**
- Male/Female
- High School graduate or College level
- Preferably with experience

★ **RADIO/ELECTRICAL/AIR-CON TECHNICIAN**
- Male, at least 23 years old
- With experience

★ All applicants must be graduate of a reputable College/ University

★ Submit all the following requirements. Resumé with 2x2 picture. Transcript of Records, Diploma, Certificate of Employment & NBI Clearance to:

Personnel / Guidance Officer
Philippine College of Health Sciences (PCHS), Inc.
1813 C.M. Recto Avenue, Manila

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Thailand Campus

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GIA Thailand Campus

Bisco Tower-12th Flr., 56/12 Sub Rd., Bangrak, Bangkok Thailand
Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc.th.com www.giathailand.com

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
Diliman, Quezon City
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

A) The University of the Philippines Diliman hereby invites all interested parties to apply for eligibility to bid for:

Canteen concession for the College of Business Administration Cafeteria with an area of 1 44.76 square meters

B) The following eligibility requirements in two copies, duly certified must be submitted to the Supply and Property Management Office (SPMO) at Instructional Materials Corp. Building (National Book Development Board), A. Regidor Street fronting the PAG-ASA Astronomical Observatory, U.P. Campus, Diliman, Quezon City, to form the basis for evaluation and assessment for pre-qualification of bidders:

1) SEC/DTI/Cooperative Development Registration Papers
2) 2004 Business License/Permit
3) Income Tax Return for the last two (2) years (2002-2003) with accompanying Audited Financial Statements marked "RECEIVED" by the BIR.
4) Company Profile
5) List of clients (past and present) with corresponding contract costs, references and supporting documents
6) List of company equipment and other assets
7) Duly notarized statement of the duly authorized representative of the company that it is not "Blacklisted" or barred from bidding by any government agencies, office or corporations.

DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE LISTED IN THE BID DOCUMENTS

The above-mentioned requirements must be completely submitted in two (2) separate folders with **Table of Contents** and **properly tabbed**. Otherwise, the same will not be accepted by the SPMO.

NOTE : ONLY ELIGIBLE BIDDERS WILL BE ISSUED THE BID DOCUMENTS AND ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BIDDING.

C) Deadline for submission: August 14, 2004
D) Pre-bidding and bidding schedules shall be announced to all eligible bidders.
E) The University of the Philippines reserves the right to review the qualifications of all selected bidders subject to technical, financial and production criteria, reject any or all bids, waive any formality or defect therein and accept the offer considered to be most advantageous to the University.
F) For further particulars, please inquire from Mr. Pedro E. Fajardo, Chief, SPMO, anytime during office hours at the above-mentioned address or call Tel. No. 920-53-74 (direct) and 920-53-01 local 4331, 4911 and 4913, or contact the Business Concessions Office (BCO) at Tel. No. 925-6996 and 920-53-01 Local 7926.

(Sgd.) **EMERLINDA R. ROMAN**
Chancellor

(PDI–July 25 & Aug. 1, 2004)

CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
wishes to announce its

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

on the following

One (1) year contract for the provision on the following services:

1. Security services for the CCP Buildings, grounds and the National Arts Center in Makiling, Laguna.
2. Indoor janitorial services for all CCP owned buildings
3. Outdoor janitorial services for the CCP Complex
4. Engineering maintenance services for all CCP buildings
5. Comprehensive pest and termite control services for CCP and other facilities

Please send a letter of intent to apply eligibility and to bid, addressed to Mr. Ed Duque, CCP BAC Secretariat, Office of the President, Cultural Center of the Philippines, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City Tel. Nos. 832-3680 or Fax No. 832-3683. Deadline for submission of letter of intent is on Friday, August 13, 2004, 5.00 p.m.

The CCP reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to the CCP, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders and the right to confiscate the bid bond and/or pursue appropriate legal action should the winning bidder refuse to accept the award.

Further, the CCP assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in participating in the undertaking, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **MAURO ARIEL S.R. YONZON**
Chairman, CCP BAC

(PDI–July 30 & Aug. 1, 2004)

MIGRATE TO CANADA!

TRUENORTH

Know more about Canada
& the immigration process.
Seminar schedule:

- Makati City, Manila – Aug 6 (Fri), 6pm
- San Pablo City, Laguna – Aug 8 (Sun), 2pm

Seminar & Individual consultation fee: P550
Call 899-3889, 830-0088 or 0917-5182648 for details

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
PORT OF MANILA
Customs District II-A
South Harbor, Manila

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 2601, other related provisions of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines and CMO 5-2003, there will be a PUBLIC AUCTION SALE (Sealed Bidding) to be conducted at the Office of Auction and Cargo Disposal Division, Room No. 304, Customhouse Bldg., South Harbor, Port Area, Manila on August 10, 2004 (Tuesday) of the hereunder listed Various Articles. Said items/goods shall be available for public viewing on August 9, 2004 (Monday).

In the event of failed bidding, the same shall be offered in a second auction to be held on the third business day following the first failed bidding at the same time and place with no reduction of the floor price and without need for further advertisement, except as to perishable items, which may be auctioned again on the following business day. When at least two of the sealed bids submitted in an auction fall within ten (10%) percent of the highest bid, the same should be above the floor price (clustering). Those in the cluster shall immediately go into an open bidding with the highest sealed bid serving as the new floor price of the lot being sold.

The winning bidders shall be required to pay 50% of the bid price either in cash and/or manager's check at the end of the bidding. For meritorious reason, said bidder may be allowed to make such payment not later than two (2) hours from the awarding of the won bid. The remaining balance of 50% of the bid price shall be paid within the next business day.

IMPORTANT:

Only registered bidders who have paid the Registration Fee of Two Thousand (P2,000.00) pesos and Cash Bond (Refundable) of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) are eligible to participate in the auction sale.

Registration starts at 1:30 pm and will close at 2:00 pm.

For further inquiry, please contact the following telephone number 528-60-00 local 459.

LOT#	ITEM/DESCRIPTION	FLOOR PRICE
045-04	One (1) unit used Honda Accord XE, broken windshield; color silver gray	P 1,339,860.01
046-04	One (1) unit used Honda V-Tech/ Accord, broken windshield, color silver gray	P 1,339,860.01
047-04	One (1) unit used Toyota Camry 2000 color green	P 1,909,904.36
048-04	One (1) unit Toyota Camry, broken windshield; color silver gray	P 1,909,904.36
049-04	One (1) unit used Honda Accord XE; color silver gray	P 1,787,523.75

(Sgd.) **Atty. RONNIE C. SILVESTRE**
District Collector
Port of Manila

(PDI – August 1, 2004)

FOOD TERMINAL, INC.

Republic of the Philippines
FOOD TERMINAL, INCORPORATED
East Service Road, Taguig, Metro Manila

REQUEST FOR LEASE PROPOSAL

The Food Terminal, Incorporated is opening up through bidding lease proposals for the following open/vacant lots within the complex:

		Area (square meter)
1.	Lot 72	44,976.59
2.	Lot 34	37,412.37
3.	Lot 36A	26,640.00
4.	Lot 37B	13,564.00
5.	DBP Avenue-Bay 2 to 4	13,195.00
6.	Lot 36C	6,585.56
7.	DBP Avenue-Bay 5	4,725.00
8.	DBP Avenue-Bay 6	3,675.00
9.	Lot 24-B1	2,953.00
10.	DBP Avenue-Bay 7	2,794.00
11.	Portion of Lot 53	2,311.25
12.	Portion of Lot 53 (End Lot)	2,200.00
13.	Portion of Lot 36B (Tennic Court)	2,091.00
14.	Lot 36A (MMTC Dorm)	1,915.00
15.	Portion Lot 61A	1,500.00
16.	DBP Avenue-Bay 1	1,300.00
17.	Portion of Lot 36B (Driveway/Parking)	829.88

Interested parties may obtain additional information by calling (632) 8384301 to 32 local 2211/2212.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. BERNIE G. FONDEVILLA**
President

(PDI - Aug. 1, 2004)

Trans Co

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. TRANSCO 2004-008C

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

DATE OF BIDDING: AUGUST 31, 2004: 2:00 PM

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A1	1 SET	ADVANCED THREE-PHASE RELAY AND METER	3PSMD-S-04-017	P 6,400,000.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding/Conference for Schedule A1 will be held on August 18, 2004; 2:00 PM at the OAVP Conference Room.

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLO&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 per schedule starting August 03, 2004. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the Conference Room (OAVP), Transco-SL O&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until the specified date and time of bidding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184".

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by GSIS or a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

TRANSCO-South Luzon's other requirements are posted at the DBM Website: www.procurementservice.net and at the TRANSCO Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) **G. R. LISTANO**
Chairman-BAC
SL O&M

(PDI--August 1, 2004)

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☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
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☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2004

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12:00 noon
Day before publication

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02-8347357 Akhin Thai Msge

24Hr MASSEUR 458-8558

ASK KIM MALE MASSEURS 8537898 (0921)2520919

Mr WORLD REFLEX
632 Shaw Blvd EDSA 5321851

H'SOME ATHLETES 8337361

MALE 09173249921

MASSAGE 8539217 ALFRED

Mr BODY PHYSIQUE
11A Kamias QC 4350978

MSGE M/F 549-7225 JAKE

MSSGE MALE 09192614746

REFLEX 0919-2395660 / 8891997

REFLEXOLOGY

FEELS GOOD 4127758

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•Wizard Massage 4213197•

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COMML/RESDL

PASIG

PRIME PROPERTY
418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. infrnt of Pamantasan ng Lunsod ng Pasig 09189422422•09178212826

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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950sqm & Up• P45T/sqm & Up •Legacy @ Montgomery Place Houses & Lots @ P13Mil & Up Near St. Lukes Hospital QC •Ayala Westgroove Heights • 350sqm Up w/SP Discount •Ayala Hillside Ayala Heights• Ric Laudico 931-2282 /0510 Ayala Broker 0917-6268127 • Hse 1,300m² Over looking P65M

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MARIKINA

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Bnew 4BR 3TB 2.8M 9487112

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HILLSBOROUGH ALABANG #17 Fleetwood L400 F559; AYALA SOUTHVALE 123 Gomez cor Bonifacio L596 F552 7264371 / 0434

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5BR5TB 9210255 9219967

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North Susana Exec Vill
164m² 3BR 2TB w/maids qtr P5M(nego) 0917-5377997

P499T/Unit Sunny Villas Condo nr Cmnwealth 30/60M² P4730/mo 8179650/9750-09192302120

SCT DE GUIA P13M 9314946

Teacher's Vill 411m² 4br bung res w/ off 925-2172 09178901956

RIZAL

3BR 200m² 1.3M 3 Car Grge Brookside 6567883

H&L TAYTAY 165M² 7147693

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

RIZAL

Vista Verde 2sty 6.5M LA687 FA300 936-6207

SAN JUAN

300LA 450FA R/off 7124933

OTHER AREAS

Tagaytay Canyon Woods FF fa234 la884 15M neg DBO Bnew cleantitle 0927-2698179

LAGUNA

BEL AIR FA35m² LA102m² P1.2M CP09178433758

CONCEPCION SN PBLO LAG 2797m² Lot 600m² Hse 5BR 09189260507/0495611526

TAGUIG

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RESIDENTIAL

	QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
1.	Condo / Unit-1, 4/F, San Jose Condo # 119 Sct Fernandez St Brgy Sacred Heart (near church) W/ parking slot / F A -42	1,304,000
2.	Lot 8 Blk -4, Adrian St., North F' view Park, P Pulik / LA-300	1,803,000
	MAKATI – Brgy. Singkamas Maskardo St. (beside Mkti. Coliseum)	MIN BID
3.	Lot - 1 Blk - 23 / L A - 282	4,794,000
4.	Lot - 2 Blk - 23, / L A - 315 * W/ ON GOING CASE *	5,355,000
	SAN JUAN (near Aquinas Schl.)	MIN BID
5.	3-Dr /2-Sty Res'l Apt /# 22 A Bonifacio St, Brgy Kabayanan L A -393 / F A -300	5,000,000
	PASIG (ORTIGAS CENTER)	MIN BID
6.	Condo /Unit – 2802, AIC Gold Twr, Emerald Ave / FA-187.17	6,900,000
	CALOOCAN	MIN BID
7.	Res'l lot / Lot-5 Blk-5, Myrna Subd.Brgy Llano/Net LA-1,398	1,600,000
8.	Lot-25 & 26 Blk-31, 2nd St, between 3rd & 4th Avenue Gracepark / L A - 388 60	4,955,000
	CAINTA, RIZAL (near Junction)	MIN BID
9	2 Sty Resl Thse/Lot-6-C Blk-3 3rd St.Gruar Subd/LA-97/FA-105	884,000
	PARANAQUE CITY	MIN BID
10.	Condo / Unit-21-D, Cleveland Twr Asiaworld City / FA-363 94 * W/ LIS PENDENS *	8,227,000
	TAGAYTAY CITY	MIN BID
11.	Lot / Lot 8 Calamba-Tagaytay Rd, Brgy Tolentino-West (over Looking Taal Lake) L A -2,156 * W/ LIS PENDENS *	20,000,000
	MUNTINLUPA – Victoria Hms.	MIN BID
12	L-125 B-3-A,Almond St/ LA-438	748,000
13	L-127 B-3-A,Almond St / LA-459	788,000
	CAVITE – Springville, Molino	MIN BID
14	L24 Blk-13 Agoho St ,Central Phase – 2 / L A – 70	277,000
15.	L-3 Blk -2, Chico St , West Phase – 2 / L A - 183	652,000
16	L-8 Blk -12, (near Agoho St). Central Phase-2 / L A – 180	713,000
17.	L-10-B Blk-2, Rimas St , West Phase-1 / L A – 71	291,000
18	L-20-A Blk-2, Rimas St., West Phase-1 / L A – 75	308,000
	CAVITE – Carmona	MIN BID
19.	L-16 Blk-1, Ph -1 Mla South Woods Res'l Est.Baybay/LA-1,224	4,604,000
	CAVITE – Naic, Brgy. Palangue Mango Orchard Res'l. & Farm Estates	
20	Lot 5 Blk 19 / L A - 964	964,000
21.	Lot 6 Blk 19 / L A - 1,194	1,194,000
22	Lot 6 Blk 19-A / L A - 1,249	1,249,000
23.	Lot 6 Blk 18 / L A.- 1,468	1,468,000
24.	Lot 1 Blk 24 / L A - 1,624	1,868,000
25	Lot 8 Blk 19-B / L A - 1,890	1,890,000
26	Lot 10 Blk 19-B / L.A.- 2,245	2,245,000
27.	Lot 9 Blk 19-B / L A - 2,247	2,585,000
28.	Lot 4 Blk 19-A / L A - 2,953	2,953,000
29.	Lot 5 Blk 19-B / L A - 3,052	3 052 000
	VALENZUELA	MIN BID
30.	Lot / L-551-A-2-A-3, Pineda Compd . Bonifacio St , Canumay - East / LA - 1,114	2,241,000
31.	2 Sty Hse & lot/Lot-1, 2 & 3 Blk-7 cor of Aster, Wistaria & Forsythia Sts.De Castro Subd Bagbaguin/TLA- 650 / FA- 547	4,662,000
	TARLAC CITY	MIN BID
32	Agro - Ind'l Lot / Lot 3871-D S Maragul, Tibag / LA-10,001	1,989,000
	NUEVA ECIJA – Cab. City # 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	MIN BID
33	Lot 3-A-6/LA-2,071/NLA-1,820 62	200,000
34	Lot 3-A-5/LA-2,071/NLA-1,847.61	201,000
35	Lot 3-A-4/LA-2,071/NLA-1,847 88	201,000
36	Lot 3-A-3/LA-2,071/NLA-1,848 17	201,000
37.	Lot 3-A-2/LA-2,071/NLA-1,848 36	201,000
38	Lot 3-A-1/LA-2,071/NLA-1,839 88	201,000
39.	Lot 2-B/LA-2,619/NLA-2,338 68	644,000
40.	Lot 2-A/LA-2,822/NLA-2,535 36	694,000
41.	Lot 2-D/LA-2,250/NLA-2,008 08	939,000
42.	Lot 2-C/LA-2,616/NLA-2,345 81	1,092,000
43.	Lot 2-F/LA-2,250/NLA-2,008 88	1,341,000
44	Lot 2-E/LA-2,249/NLA-2,007.48	1,341,000
45.	2 Storey resl / Lot 2-G LA-2,384/NLA-1,881 9/FA-138	2,011,000
	ANTIPOLO, RIZAL	MIN BID
46.	Lot/L-47 B-18 Park Ridge Est. Ph -3 (via Valley Golf) LA-811	1,440,000

RESIDENTIAL

	ANTIPOLO, RIZAL	MIN BID
47.	Lot-20 Blk -17, Jerusalem St Palmera Hills-5, Uulan /LA-120	332,000
48.	Lot / L-23 Blk-10 Cottonwoods Hts., Brgy Bayugo / LA-266	1,230,000
49	L-6 Blk-2 Mills St, Sta. Monica Classic Est ,Ph-3,Mission Hills Brgy Colaique / LA- 540	1,365,000
50.	Lot / L-21 Blk-2 Cottonwoods Hts , Brgy. Bayugo / LA-355	1,641,000
51.	Lot/L-17 Blk-1,Beverly St,Sta Barbara-1, Luxury Est Mission Hills, Brgy Colaique/ LA-1,021	2,461,000
	Orchard Res'l.Estates and Golf & Country Club, Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite	
	FAIRWAY LOTS	MIN BID
52	L - 27 Blk – 36 / L.A. – 771	2,930,000
53	L - 93 Blk – 48 / L.A. – 783	2,976,000
54	L - 27 Blk – 17 / L.A. – 828	3,147,000
55.	L - 52 Blk – 17 / L A – 1,130	4,294,000
	NON – FAIRWAY LOTS	MIN BID
56	L – 67 Blk - 48 / L A - 506	1,518,000
57	L – 35 Blk - 37 / L A - 687	2,061,000
58	L – 03 Blk - 43 / L A - 855	2,565,000
	STA. MARIA, BULACAN – SUNRAYS VILL.	
59	Lot / L – 27 Blk - 3 / L A - 70	140,000
60	Lot / L – 29 Blk - 3 / L A - 70	140,000
61	Lot / L – 31 Blk - 3 / L A.- 70	140,000
62.	Lot / L – 33 Blk - 3 / LA-83	166,000
63	Lot / L – 34 Blk - 3 / LA-115	230,000
64	Lot / Block - 6 / L.A - 111	167,000

COMMERCIAL

	VALENZUELA CITY	MIN BID
65	Indl Lot / Lot-301-B-1, Brgy Maysan / Net L A - 3,269	1,335,000
66.	Ind'l Lot / Lot-2, 6-A, 4-A & B, 3, 6-B-1 & 2, Brgy Maysan Net L A-12,516 (via Viongco St)	5,603,000
67	Ind'l Lot / Lot 1091-A-2-B, 386-C-2, 1571-386-D, 1572-B-1-A, 1572-B-2-A, 1091-A-2-A, 1572-B-2-B & 386-C-1-B, Jacinto St, Canumay-West Net L A - 27,094	11,413,000
68	Ind'l Lot w/ 2 Whse (14 & 16) Barracks, Canteen, Guardhse. Lot1075-D-1-C, Plastic City # 6 T Santiago St, Canumay-West. LA- 9,923 / FA- 7,096	31,763,000
69	Ind'l Lot w/ 3 Res'l Bldgs /Lot-382-G, Plastic City Housing Canumay LA-25,798/FA-5,310	51,000,000
70	Wareh'se /Lot-13 Templanza St, Don Pedro Vill, Marulas Val. / L.A - 2,540 / F A.- 3,314	12,200,000
	MAKATI	MIN BID
71	Condo/ 5/F Millenium Plaza Eduque St / F A - 261 24	12,436,000
72	Lot /Lot-1-B & Lot-2-B, Buendia cor Marconi St / TLA-472	15,200,000
	MANILA	MIN BID
73.	3 Sty Bldg /Anacleto St,(near Jollibee-Tayuman)LA-294/FA-810	14,640,000
74.	Dormitory-4 Sty / # 352 M.F. Jhocson St , Sampaloc L'A - 489 3 / T F A - 1,620 5	15,750,000
75	2/F KP Twr , CM Recto Ave. Cor Juan Luna St / FA-658	23,500,000
	QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
76	#138 Gen Luis cor Pasacola rd , Brgy Nagkaisang Nayon Novaliches LA-49,504/FA-23,384	300,000,000
77.	Lot 8 & 9 Blk-S-27, Timog Ave LA-1,380/FA-1,500 (On Lease)	70,000,000
78	Whse /# 185 Roosevelt Ave SFDM /TLA- 5,641/TFA-3 454	140,000,000
	TAGUIG-Global City,Fort.Boni.	MIN BID
79	Lot-2 Blk-18 / L A -1,643	181,552,000
80	Lot-3 Blk-18 / L A -1,643	181,552,000
	NUEVA ECIJA # 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili, Cabanatuan City	MIN BID
81.	Agri lot /Lot 3-B/ NLA-37,041	1,183,000
82.	Comml lot w/ Whse & Offc. Lot 2-H / LA-2,810 NLA-2,260 67 / FA – 580	3,569,000
	TARLAC CITY Town proper – Infront of Ice plant	MIN BID
83.	Lot / L-4-C, Rizal St /L A -759	6,475,000
84	Lot / L-4-B, Rizal corner Panganiban Sts / L A - 1,102	9,402,000
	SARIAYA-QUEZON PROVINCE	MIN BID
85	Agri lot w/ resl H&L, Whse & Piggery / Lot 6181-A-5-A-1-A-1-I, Psd 4A-001202,Sampaloc TLA -101,038 65 / TFA -9,277	40,548,000

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HOUSE & LOT

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HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

HOUSE & LOT

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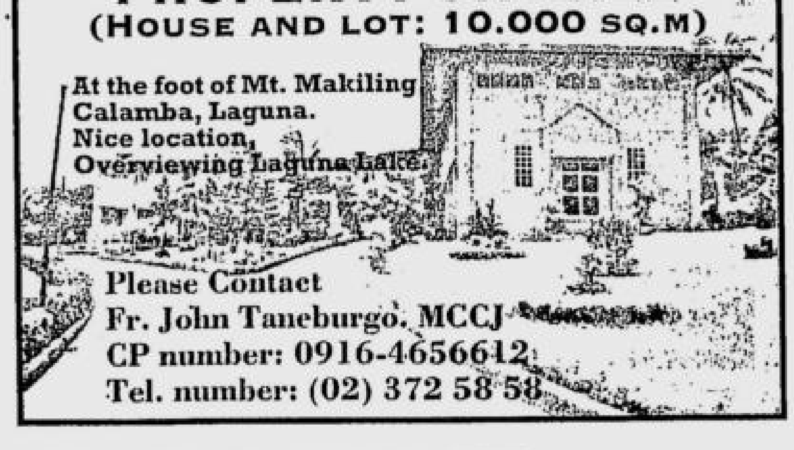
PROPERTY ON SALE
(HOUSE AND LOT: 10.000 SQ.M)



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Paragon Plaza 66sqm P2.5M w /prkg 5313953/09173273588

PASIG

Eastwood RSH 09198261431

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CONDO/TWNHSE

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• 2,526m² Subd. LOT Q.C. Nr 1st Clas Subd.
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HOUSE & LOT

LOT

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ALABANG @ P12,100/sqm up LA300 up across Ayala Alabang Call 7711182 , 09178982437

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HOUSE & LOT

RIZAL

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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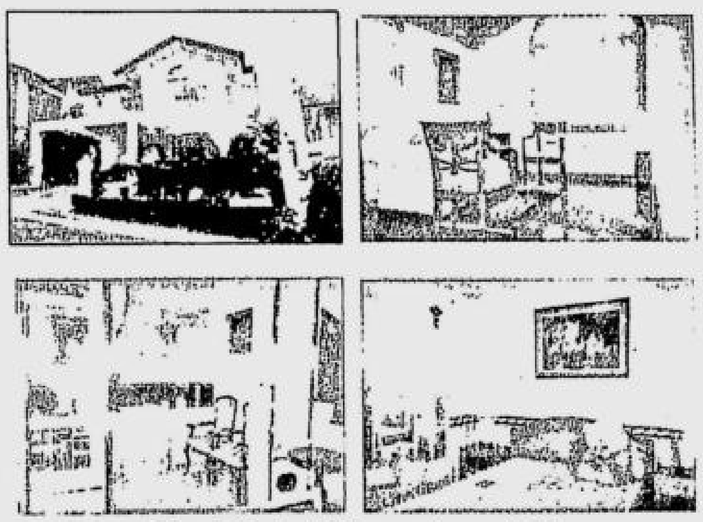
HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE!



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- 276 Lot Area
- 3 Bedrooms
- 228.53 Floor Area Sq. meter
- 1 Music Room
- Basement

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QUEZON CITY
- 2 sty apartment type bldg; LA 281 sqms.; Blk 77 Lot 1, Bighani corner Flores de Mayo Sts., Lagro Subd., Selling Price: **P3,250,000.00**
- 4 sty res'l unfinished bldg.; LA 270 sqms.; Richland St., Richland 5 Subdivision, Sauyo, Selling Price: **P3,380,000.00**
- 3 sty twnhse unit; LA 182 sqms.; Unit N. Sentosa Hgts., Scout Bayoran St., Bgy. South Triangle, Selling Price: **P7,460,000.00**
- 2 sty res'l bldg. w/ basement; LA 502 sqms.; No. 47 Mercury Drive, Tierra Gloria Subd., Tandang Sora, Selling Price: **P4,750,000.00**
- res'l condo unit; FA 121 sqms.; Suite 303, 3/F Whitehasco Condo., Araneta Avenue cor. Bayani St., Selling Price: **P1,815,000.00**

MUNTINLUPA
- 2 vacant res'l lots; 500 sqms. each; Lot 17 & 19 Cadiz St., Susana Hgts., Subd., Village 1, Selling Price **P3,900,000.00**

CAVITE
- condominium unit; 70.71 sqms.; Unit 61B Kalaw Cluster, Vista de Loro Hgts., Puerto Azul Complex, Ternate, Selling Price: **P1,870,000.00**

PARAÑAQUE
- 2 sty res'l bldg.; 6 BR, 1 T&B; 553.45 sqms.; 20-A Jose Abad Santos St., Bayview Village, Baclaran, Selling Price: **P7,970,000.00**
- 2 sty twnhse unit; 3 BR, 2 T&B; LA 226 sqms., FA 153.82 sqms.; 73-A Unit 5 VJ Townhomes, J. Villaroman, BF Classic, Selling Price: **P2,480,000.00.**

LAS PIÑAS
- 2 sty res'l bldg.; 280 sqms.; 20 Palosapis St., Pilar Village, Selling Price: **P2,890,000.00.**

TAFT
- vacant comm'l lot: LA 754.45 sqms.; 2244 Taft Avenue, Malate, Selling Price: **P28,000,000.00.**

MANDALUYONG
- condominium unit; FA 65.33 sqms.; Unit 507 Ark Condominium, 546 Sierra Madre St., Mandaluyong City, Selling Price: **P1,280,468.00.**
- condominium unit; Penthouse; FA 125.46, Unit P1 Ark Condominium, 546 Sierra Madre St., Mandaluyong City, Selling Price: **P2,709,936.00**

LUCENA
- 2 sty res'l/comm'l bldg.; LA 1,410 sqms.; Purok Matahimik, Bgy. Cotta, Selling Price: **P2,650,000.00**

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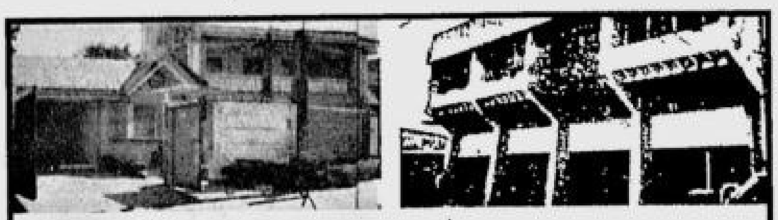

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2. **1 Dahlia cor. White Lily St.,** Araneta Village, Malabon LA: 786m²; FA: 555 m² P9.0 Million
3. **Unit 804 Pearl Plaza Condominium** Pearl Drive, Ortigas Centre, Pasig FA: 167.06m² P5.0 Million
4. **Unit 1203, 1703, 1903, 1604** Pacific Coast Condo. Project (w/ parking), Tambo, Parañaque FA:164m²/unit; P4.0 Million
5. **8 Ortega St., San Vicente,** San Pedro, Laguna LA: 324m²; FA: 297m²; P1.8 Million

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1. **Vacant Industrial Lot** Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay Road, Bo. Pulong, Sta. Cruz, Sta. Rosa, Laguna LA: 35,800m²; P7,500/m²
2. **Vacant Residential Lots** Along National Hi-way, Brgy. Tambler, Gen. Santos City TLA: 138,602m²; P500/m²
3. **Vacant Commercial Lot** Lot 5-A Bradco Ave., Aseana Business Park, Parañaque LA: 6,281m²; P50,000/m²
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5. **Residential/Commercial** EagleRidge Golf & Residential Estate, Amadeo Road, Gen. Trias, Cavite LA: 450-1,100m²; P3,000/m²

INDUSTRIAL/ COMMERCIAL BLDGS.

1. **0736 Barangay Road, Bo. Mulawin,** Baliuag, Bulacan LA: 10,115m²; TFA:1,638 m²; P6.1 Million
2. **Along Katipunan Ave., California Village,** Bo. San Bartolome, Novaliches, Q.C. LA:5,280 m²; TFA: 4,240.98 m² P42.0 Million
3. **Along Cagayan Valley Road,** Mayapyap, Cabanatuan City LA: 15,410m²; TFA: 2,340m²; P50.0 Million
4. **Along D. Silang St.,** Poblacion, Batangas City LA: 294m²; P8.0Million
5. **Along T. Santiago St., Bo. Lingunan,** Valenzuela, Metro Manila LA: 38,729m²; TFA: 7,061m²; P155.0 Million

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NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the lost Centro Escolar University Cert Nos. 3226; 4516; 5550; 6619; 7898 with a total of 82 shares in the name of Doris Yu. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
PDI-July 25, August 1 & 8, 2004

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE
O, Holy St. Jude Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near in kinsman to Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depth of my heart, I humbly beg your great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and most urgent need. In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Saint Jude pray for us and all who invoke thy aid. Pray this nine times a day for nine consecutive days. On the eight day your prayers will be answered
Thank You Holy Spirit RDO

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32nd Death Anniversary

DON ONOFRE E. BATALLONES, SR.

18 December 1910 - 09 July 1972

4th Death Anniversary

DOñA JUANA OÑATE VDA. DE BATALLONES

08 February 1911 - 01 August 2000

of 530 Niugan, Cabuyao, Laguna

Their children and grandchildren

Fiscal Loreto Masa & Aida Batallones (†)
Alvin & Maricel, kids **Anthony Loreso & Nicole**;
Michael & Lizette, kid **Myk Timothy; Marvin;**
Towie & Apple, kids **JM, Ella, & Baby Rhett**

Monico & Celerina Daluraya
Robert & Joy, kids **Jaylin Rose & Sofia Amani**;
Randy & Sheila Ner, kid **Jordan**

Onofre Jr. & Cenem Batallones
Lemuel Joy & Rowena, kids **Louisse & Josh Bryan**
Liezle Ann & Lauren

Jaime & Delia Batallones
Lyle & Joan Herbosa, kids **Baby Juliana & Baby Francesca**
Joy, & Jaime Onofre (Jun-jun)

Harry & Nenita Retizos
Happy & Peachy

and other relatives and friends request pious readers to remember **ONOFRE, SR.** and **JUANA** in their prayers.

Masses will be offered on August 01, 2004 at the following:

St. Policarp Parish Church, *Poblacion, Cabuyao, Laguna* 6:30 AM
St. Francis de Asisi Parish Church, *Pulo, Cabuyao, Laguna* 6:00 AM

* * *

Our Very Dear

ROBERTO NOEL SARTE - SILVERIO

Passed into the loving arms of our Father
on the 28th of July 2004.

We, his parents **Bernie & Lulu**, his wife **Irene**, his daughter **Sabrina**, his brothers **Butch** and **Ding** and sister **Betta**, his in-laws, nephews and nieces request all those whose lives he touches to say a special prayer for the repose of his soul.

Noel lies in state at the Capilla de San Francisco at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Necrological services will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 1, 2004 at the Santuario de San Antonio. Interment will be on Monday, August 2, 2004 after cremation at the Heritage Park.

* * *

In Memory of

MANNY BAYANGOS, Sr.

on his 1st Death Anniversary
August 01, 2004.

Loving husband, caring father, doting grandfather, dedicated son, nephew, brother, friend.

We miss you.

* * *

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." - John 3:16

* * *

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us in our times of sorrow...
For praying with us, and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of consolation and sympathy...
For the beautiful flowers to help lighten the gloomy mood...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done and continue to do to ease our pain...

OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

From the family of the late

EDESER C. URRIZA

March 15, 1927 - July 18, 2004

* * *

JOSE "JUN" CABRERA JR.

Peacefully joined the Lord
on July 30, 2004 at the age of 47.

His loving parents **Engr. Jose G. Cabrera Sr. & Mrs. Gloria R. Cabrera**; wife **Rose**; brothers **Ricardo R. Cabrera, Cezar R. Cabrera**; sister **Vivien Ramirez**; children **Marie Adelwisa Marfil, Charmaine Baquir, Reginald Cabrera, Nicole Anne Cabrera, Christopher Cabrera, Joseph Cabrera, Lizabeth Cabrera**; children-in-law **Derick Marfil** and **Julius Baquir**; grandchildren **Trajn, Francee, Fritzie, Samuel** together with her relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at **Mt. Carmel Shrine Church, Doña Juana Rodriguez Ave., New Manila, Quezon City.**

Interment will be announced later.

We accept Classified advertisements
Lines, Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding
in Visayas
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Cebu
Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario Street, Cebu City
Tel. No. (032) 232-7618
NORA GONZAGA
Rm. 201 Josever Bldg. 2
(atop of Dunkin Donuts)
Fuente Osmeña St., Cebu City
Tel. No. (032) 256-1954
(0927) 4651068
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Mr. Raymund Mercado
Hi-Top News Magazine & General Merchandise
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. Nos. (035) 225-5796/225-4364
Mr. Ramon Charles Sy
New Renie's
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. Nos. (035) 225-4320/422-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182
Iloilo
Mr. Eduardo Ty
c/o Ms. Marilou Ty
Eddie-Mar News & Magazine Center
Ground Floor, Bombo Radio Building
Mapa Street, Iloilo City
Tel. No. (033) 337-3120/337-6018
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Mr. Jim Feliciano
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Tel. No. (033) 336-9932
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Kalibo
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Candelario Enterprise
RB Newspapers, Magazine & Song Hits Distribution Agency
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Roxas City
Ms. Marieta Santos
M. Santos Komiks Magazines & Newspaper Dealer
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Fuentes Drive, Roxas City
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Mr. Neil Montejo
Montejo's Newspaper Supply
246 Avenida Veteranos
Tacloban City
Tel. Nos. (053) 325-6743/321-2954
Tagbilaran City
Mr. Ferdinand Mercado
Doña Rosario Village
G. Penaflor Street
Tagbilaran City
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

We accept Classified advertisements
Lines, Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding
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Bakit lalayo ka pa? Sa INQUIRER, convenient na sulit pa!

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Mr. Juanito Castro c/o Ms. Ruby Castro
J & R Agency
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(fronting Victoria Supermart) Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 444-6526
Cell. No. (0918) 632-6322
Bataan
Ms. Loudette Banzon
308 Sampaguita St.
Doña Francisca, Balanga City, Bataan
Tel. No. (047) 2373662
Fax No. (047) 7916152
Batangas City
Mr. Romero Claro c/o Ms. Wilma C. Deyrit
RVC Newsstand, 7 P. Burgos Street
Batangas City
Tel. Nos. (043) 723-4426/984-1523
Mr. Ramon P. Perez c/o Ms. Dodie Simon
Perez Educational & Magazine Store
R&S Perez Building 46 D. Silang St.
Batangas City
Tel. Nos. (043) 723-0618, (043) 980-8942
Lipa City
Ms. Rose Perce
c/o NYR Insurance, Rm. 2, RBSA Bldg.
Rizal St. Lipa City
Tel. Nos. (043) 312-2408/756-1330
Bulacan
Mr. Rodolfo D. Gregorio
263 Rizal Street, Tercero, Baliwag, Bulacan
Tel. No. (044) 766-1280
Cell. No. (0917) 882106
Cabanatuan City
Mr. Ruel Capule
#7 Santander Street
Kapt. Pepe Subdivision
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463-0823
Nueva Vizcaya
Himmler John L. Manzano c/o Ms. Jenny Manzano
Nueva Vizcaya Travel & Tours
Poblacion North Solano, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax Nos. (078) 3267172/326-7776
Cell. No. (0917) 848-3669
Pampanga
Mr. Noel Cabaero
Lot 4 Block 20 Phase II
corner St. Peter and St. Jude Streets,
St. Jude Village, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. (045) 963-3718 (0918) 505-6249
Gopao Building, Dolores Homesite,
McArthur Highway
Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. (045) 961-3787/860-4132
E-mail: chersum@pamp.pworld.net.ph
Ms. Rowena Flores
#53 Justice Maya St., Villa Gloria Subd.
Angeles City
Tel. Nos. (045) 888-4565
Pangasinan
Mr. Vic Chua
JVC Cargo Forwarders Co. Ltd.
243 Rizal Street, Calasiao, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 522-0505/517-5095
Mr. Mario Novales
Marigold Bookstore
AB Fernandez Avenue, Dagupan City,
Pangasinan
Tel. Nos. (075) 522-2328/515-2204
Fax No. (075) 522-0079
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Ms. Angelita Leonor c/o Ms. Mabel Mercado
Leonor's Merrimart
Maresca Building, E. Valencia Street,
Puerto Princesa City
Tel. Nos. (048) 433-2531/433-2551/433-8002
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Mr. Richmont Pobre
Agdamag Newsstand,
Stall #7 Tuguegarao Central Market
Gomez Street, Tuguegarao, Cagayan
Tel. Nos. (078) 844-1180/844-0364
E-mail: pobre@cag.pworld.net.ph
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Mr. Ertie I. Duduaco c/o E.D. Batteries
F. Tañedo Street, Tarlac City
Tel. No. (045) 982-0653
Cell. No. (0917) 448-0551
Fax No. (045) 982-1755
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Mr. Fernando B. Hemedez
Residence: #10 Narathon Street
Marquita Pueblo, Dila, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tel. Nos. (049) 531-2778/837-3623
Cell. No. (0917) 530-1939
Store: #250 J.P. Rizal Street,
Cabuyao, Laguna
Tel. No. (049) 531-4829
Isabela
Ms. Alice Pua Uy
Lola's Store
Rizal Street, Cauayan, Isabela
Tel. No. (078) 652-2279
Legaspi City
Ms. Irene Solmirano
Brgy. 34 Oro Site, Legaspi City
Tel. Nos. (052) 820-1274/480-8098/8208403
Cathy P. Sendin
SM Prieto Marketing
Quezon Avenue, Legaspi City
Tel. Nos. (052) 214-3043/214-3648/820-3748
Fax No. (052) 214-3043
Naga City
Mr. Ramon S. Sta
RS Newspaper & Magazine Headquarters
Stall Nos. 33, 35 & 37
Ground Floor Supermarket
General Luna Street, Naga City
Tel. No. (054) 473-6711
Camarines Norte
Mr. Marcelo Espino
Espino Newspaper & Magazine Store
Gov. Tañotes Ave., Daet, Camarines Norte
Tel. No. (054) 4401896
Quezon City
Mr. Antonio Feliciano c/o Ms. Jean
Germalin Enterprise
397 Tandang Sora Avenue
Culiat, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 951-7468/931-0108
Rizal
Mr. Jesus Dimagiba
191 Col. Guido Street, Angono, Rizal
Tel. Nos. 295-4353/651-0094
Cell. No. (0917) 794-0432

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Copy of Death Certificate;
2. Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS
and bank-to-bank payments

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE: **897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425** (Telefax) • CUBAO: **912-9008 to 11** (Aurora)
MAKATI: **892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370** • KALAW: **528-0213; 527-3342** • MEGAMALL: **635-0219; 635-0220**

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
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1305 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City; Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
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Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City; Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
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965 Del Monte Ave., Frisco, Quezon City; Tels. 416-3231; 4162373
ERIC SANTIAGO MEMORIAL CHAPELS
26 Bayanbayan Ave., Concepcion I, Marikina City; Tels. 942-6044; 475-1177
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
9 V. Gomez & 13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City
Tels. 646-1725 or 646-1730
Branch: Guitnang Bayan, San Mateo; Rizal; Tels. 649-5949; 942-4460
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
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FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
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FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191

FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011
Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex
Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal
Tels. 651-1711; 651-0737
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
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Tels. 825-1296; 825-1291, Telefax: 825-1314
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#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
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Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
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1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila
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Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, SUCAT, INC.
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque; Tels. 820-1592; 825-9947; 825-8635
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79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3386; (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978
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Bugtong Road, Legaspi City; Tels. (052) 820-0188; 0917-2074152
LINCOLN MEMORIAL SERVICES, INC.
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Phase I, BF Commercial Center, Parañaque, Metro Manila
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EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City; Tels. 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
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Tels. 941-3196 to 98; 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577
MALABED FUNERAL SERVICE
3-A Coronado St., Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City; Tel. 890-63-18
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal; Tels. 645-1855
MARCELO FUNERAL HOMES
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MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
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Tels. (075) 515-5960; 522-8783; (0917) 520-5001
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
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Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
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Del Rosario St., Tabacuhan, Sta. Rita, Olongapo
Tel. No. (047) 223-1692
OUR LADY OF PEACE MEMORIAL PARK CHAPEL & SERVICES, INC.
No. 6 Carigma St., Antipolo City 1870
Tel. No. 697-0782; 697-0026; 650-7426; Fax : 697-2764
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Tels. 826-1376; 826-9682; (0915) 712-1220
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296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City; Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286/87
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1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila; Tel. 302-5447
ZUASOLA FUNERAL HOMES
Brgy. Del Remedio, San Pablo City, Laguna
Tels. (049) 562-1668; 800-2914 Cel. No. (0917) 5016963

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. MMD-TRANSCO 2004-056

Ref. No.: PB040702-PP0087 / PR No. PPID-04-006700

1. The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (TRANSCO - BAC) - HEAD OFFICE**, invites local bidders/contractors to apply for eligibility who are:
   a. Duly licensed Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships; or
   b. Partnerships duly organized under the laws of the Philippines and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the interest belongs to citizens of the Philippines; or
   c. Corporations duly organized under the laws of the Philippines, and of which at least sixty percent (60%) of the outstanding capital stock belongs to citizens of the Philippines; or
   d. Manufacturers, suppliers and/or distributors forming themselves into a joint venture, i.e., group of two (2) or more manufacturers, suppliers and/or distributors that intend to be jointly and severally responsible or liable for a particular contract: Provided, however, that Filipino ownership or interest of the joint venture concerned shall be at least sixty percent (60%); or
   e. Cooperatives duly registered with the Cooperatives Development Authority (CDA).
2. Procurement of:
   1 LOT – **DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING EQUIPMENT, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF PAGING SYSTEM**
   With background music and associated sound system for TransCo facilities to include all necessary installation materials, accessories and peripheral equipment.
3. The contract to be performed by the successful bidder shall be specified in the Technical Quotation Form of the Bid Documents to be issued.
4. The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to be Bid is
   FOUR MILLION PESOS (Php4,000,000.00)
   to be sourced from the Internal Cash Generation of TransCo.
5. The Bid Documents will be available for issuance starting ***July 26, 2004 to August 17, 2004*** (from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) at the BAC Secretariat Office, National Transmission Corporation, Materials Management Division (MMD), Ground Floor, Transco Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)** per set.
6. Pre-Bid Conference will be held on ***August 06, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.*** at the Admin Conference Room, G/F, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.
7. Deadline for submission, receipt and opening of bids shall be on or before ***10 A.M. of August 18, 2004*** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Ave. corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. If the date falls on a non-working day or declared non-working day, the deadline for submission shall be moved to the next working day immediately following said date. Late submission and/or incomplete bid documents shall not be accepted.
8. All particulars relative to the eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A of Republic Act 9184.
9. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the corporation.
10. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **ANTONIO G. LABAYANI**
Chairman, Bids and Award Committee

(PDI – July 26 & August 1, 2004)

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 05-34-2004

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Project : One (1) lot Pre-Employment Medical Examination (Location of the diagnostic clinic must be within the City of Manila)
Approved Budget : Two Million Six Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Two & 88/100 Pesos (P 2,652,992.88)
Source of Funds : Internally Funded

Only supplies duly registered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from July 30, 2004 to August 24, 2004** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00)***. In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference	:	August 10, 2004	(2:00 pm)
Submission of Bids	:	August 25, 2004	(2:00 pm)
Opening of Bids	:	August 25, 2004	(2:00 pm onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd.) **RAFAEL A. FRANCISCO**
Chairperson, BAC 3

(PDI--August 1 & 8, 2004)

INVITATION FOR BID
ARMM SOCIAL FUND PROJECT
Loan No. 7153 PH
IFB-ASF-02-2004

August 01, 2004

1. The Government of the Philippines through the ARMM Social Fund (ASF) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of strategic infrastructure component of the ARMM Social Fund (ASF) Project and it intends to apply a portion of this proceeds to cover eligible payments under the contract for the construction of various infrastructure sub-projects. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.
2. The ARMM Social Fund (ASF) now invites sealed bid from eligible bidders for the construction/rehabilitation of the hereunder subproject:
   - **Sub-Project Code : SRI-MAG-RHF-001**
     Title : Rehabilitation and Improvement of Datu Blah Sinsuat District Hospital
     Location : Poblacion, Upi, Maguindanao
   - **Sub-Project Code : SRI-MAG-RHF-002**
     Title : Rehabilitation and Improvement of Buluan District Hospital
     Location : Poblacion, Buluan, Maguindanao
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at ARMM Social Fund, 3rd Floor VHW (Land Bank) Building, Veterans Avenue, Zamboanga City. Telephone Numbers: (062) 992-2684-86 & 992-2706, Fax No.: 991-9410, E-Mail: asfp@info.com.ph
4. A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Php3,500.00 or its equivalent in a fully convertible currency, for each set starting **August 4, 2004**. The method of payment will be on cash basis only.
5. Bids shall be valid for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after bid opening and must be delivered and will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representative who choose to attend at 10:00 a.m. on **September 7, 2004** at the ASF Conference Room, 3rd Floor, VHW (Land Bank) Bldg., Veterans Avenue, Zamboanga City and must be accompanied by a minimum bid security of at least 2.5% of the total bid amount in the form of cash, certified check, or bank guarantee drawn against a Bank acceptable to the ASF to expire thirty (30) calendar days beyond bid validity.
6. Interested bidders are invited to attend a Pre-Bid Conference to be held at ASF Office on **August 17, 2004** at 9:00 A.M.
7. The ARMM Social Fund reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and cancel the bidding process and reject all bids, at any time prior to the award of contract, without thereby incurring financial or any liability to the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the ARMM Social Fund's action.

Republic of the Philippines
ARMM Social Fund
3/F VHW (Land Bank) Bldg.
Veterans Ave., Zamboanga City
Tel. (062) 992-2684-86 / 992-2706
Fax (062) 991-9410
Email: asfp@info.com.ph

(Sgd.) **NAZRULLAH B. MANZUR**
Executive Director

(PDI-August 1 & 8, 2004)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

BMHI
BCDA Management and Holdings, Inc.

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

BCDA Management & Holdings, Incorporated (BMHI) invites interested DISTRIBUTORS/DEALERS to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of two (2) brand new Asian Utility Vehicles (AUV). The approved budget for the contract is **PESOS: One Million Eight Hundred Thousand (Php 1,800,000.00)** chargeable against BMHI.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Interested parties are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Chairperson, BMHI Procurement, Bids and Awards Committee (BMHI-PBAC) at the *Small Conference Room, Main Lobby, BCDA Corporate Center, 2/F Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st Street corner 2nd Avenue, Crescent Park West, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila*, on or before 12:00 p.m. of **August 9 to 16, 2004**. The LOI should state the following information:
   a. Company's name, address and nature of business; and
   b. Contact person directly employed by the copany, and contact telephone numbers.
2. Interested parties shall secure a copy of the Terms of Reference for a non-refundable fee of **ONE THOUSAND PESOS (Php 1,000.00)** at the above-mentioned address, on or before 12:00 p.m. of **August 6 and 9, 2004**. Thereafter, the BMHI-PBAC Secretariat will inform all interested parties of their acceptance or rejection as a pre-qualified proponent.
3. The proposals shall be accepted on or before 12:00 noon and opened in the presence of the proponents or their authorized representatives at 1:30 p.m. on **August 20, 2004** at the above-mentioned address.
4. BMHI reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals, waive any defects or informalities therein, or accept any bid/s or offer/s which may be advantageous and beneficial to the government.

For more information or clarification, please call **Mr. Bryan Pabustan** of the BMHI-PBAC Technical Working Group at **816-0989 or 816-1348**.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA GEORGINA DJ. JOTA**
BMHI-PBAC Chairperson

(PDI - July 25 & Aug. 1, 2004)

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cut & clip

GALING PILIPINO MOVEMENT (GPM) is a non-profit private sector initiative of citizens committed to recognize, affirm and propagate what is good and excellent about being PILIPINO to develop a culture of excellence and a commendable sense of national pride as a value-centered foundation for nation-building. *Itaguyod natin ang Galing ng Pilipino!*

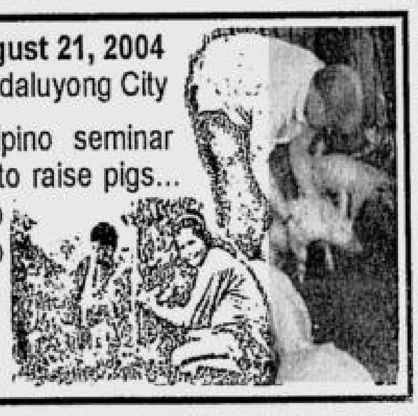
August 2004 Calendar of Events

PGP FOREST TREE PLANTING ACTIVITY
8am to 11am, Friday, **August 20, 2004**
La Mesa Dam Watershed

Donors and supporters of GPM and its *Pamaskong Galing Pilipino (PGP) 2003* fund drive are invited to a tree-planting activity in cooperation with *Bantay Kalikasan*. Your donations went to establishing the ***PGP Forest***, a one-hectare area in La Mesa Dam which we will plant with trees of local species. Join us & help reforest La Mesa Dam!

FREE meals and transportation. Limited slots only. Register early.

NATURAL FARMING SEMINAR
8am to 5pm, Saturday, **August 21, 2004**
Chowking-Pioneer, Mandaluyong City

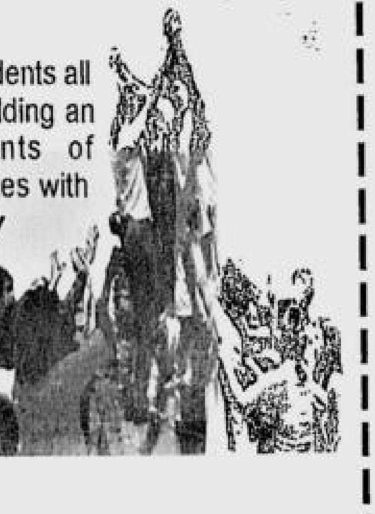


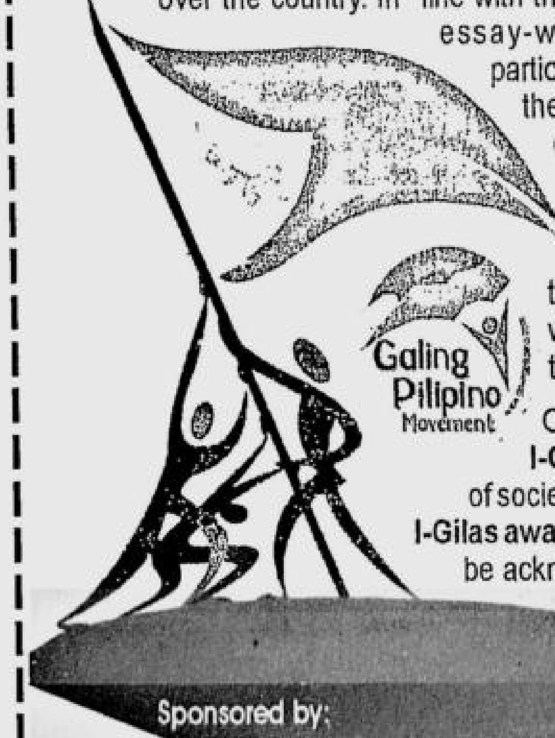
BABUYAN NA HINDI AMOY BABOY! Innovative Galing Pilipino seminar conducted by Mr. Andry Lim. Attend this seminar & find out how to raise pigs... ***WALANG HUGAS, WALANG LIGO, WALANG BAHO!*** Learn how to grow ***CHEMICAL-FREE FRUITS & VEGETABLES***. And know how to make concoctions using natural ingredients found in your backyard.

Seminar Fee: P500.00 for GPM members, P1,000.00 for non-members

NATIONAL HEROES DAY CELEBRATION
August 28-29, 2004

In celebration of this year's ***National Heroes Day***, GPM will raise the banner of heroism with ***"Galing Pilipino, Saludo ang Mundo!"*** GPM endeavors to rouse the nation, particularly our youth, to foster a commendable sense of national pride and to engender a climate of affirmation that will make *'galing'* the brand mark of being Pilipino.





On August 28, GPM will organize Youth Kapihans to be participated by students all over the country. In line with this celebration GPM will be holding an essay-writing contest for students of participating colleges and universities with the theme: ***"The Hero(es) of My Generation, the Galing Generation"***. This contest aims to determine the views of the Pilipino youth about what constitute heroism today.

On August 29, GPM will formally announce the **Corporate I-Gilas Centers** partners in search of individuals from any level of society who manifest the *Galing Pilipino spirit* in their work. These **I-Gilas awardees** cited by the partner organization will be presented and be acknowledged as the Pilipino everyday heroes on our National Heroes Day citation.

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For more particulars call GPM Foundation Inc. @ (02)633-1089 or (02)631-3932 or log on to www.galingpilipino.com

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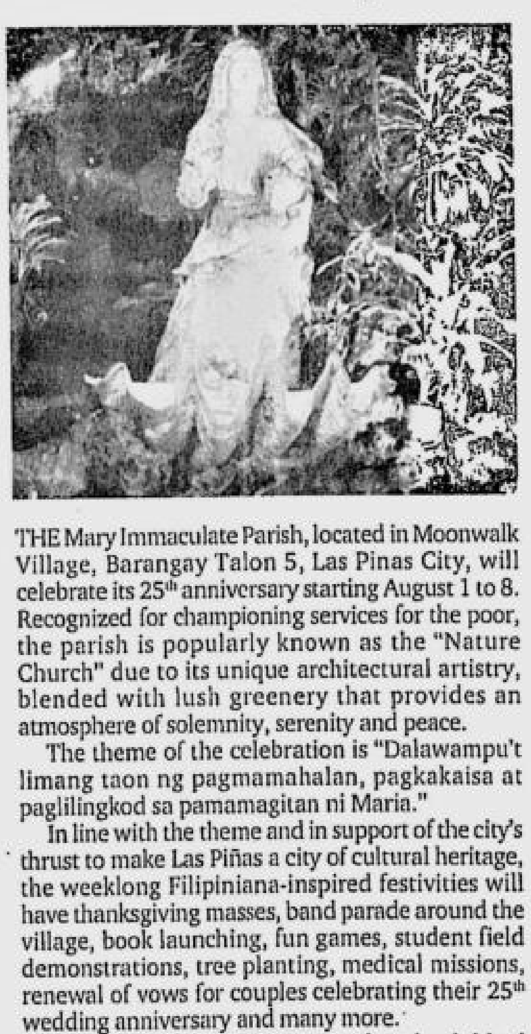
The Mary Immaculate Parish of Las Piñas City celebrates its 25th Jubilee



THE Mary Immaculate Parish, located in Moonwalk Village, Barangay Talon 5, Las Pinas City, will celebrate its 25th anniversary starting August 1 to 8. Recognized for championing services for the poor, the parish is popularly known as the "Nature Church" due to its unique architectural artistry, blended with lush greenery that provides an atmosphere of solemnity, serenity and peace.

The theme of the celebration is "Dalawampu't limang taon ng pagmamahalan, pagkakaisa at paglilingkod sa pamamagitan ni Maria."

In line with the theme and in support of the city's thrust to make Las Piñas a city of cultural heritage, the weeklong Filipiniana-inspired festivities will have thanksgiving masses, band parade around the village, book launching, fun games, student field demonstrations, tree planting, medical missions, renewal of vows for couples celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary and many more.

There will be a daily tiangge booths dubbed "WOW, Mary Immaculate Parish!"

The major highlights of the affair will be the colorful stage production presentations showcasing the history, accomplishments and future direction of the parish, presentation of awards to pioneer priests and presidents of parish council, and the barrio fiesta salu-salo for all.

The celebration will be concluded with the blessing of the new chapel in one of the mission areas, ushering the renewed passion of bringing Christ into the hearts and homes of all the parishioners. For more information you may contact the parish office at 801-7806.

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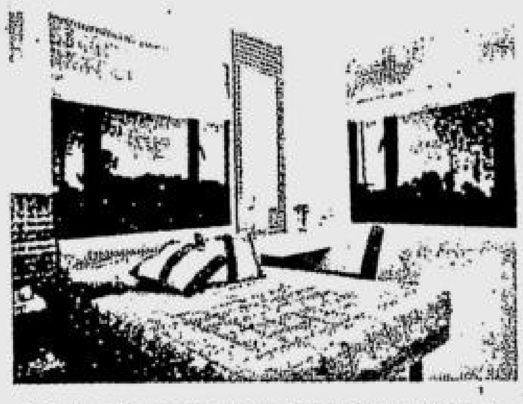

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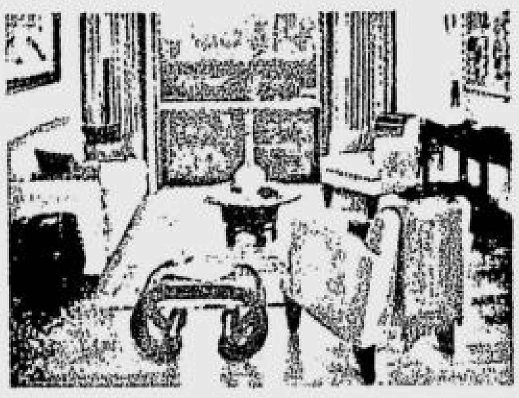

- ✓ ***It is all in the details.*** Enjoy living spaces that truly enhance the way you live. Residences afford generous space and are designed for entertaining while enjoying the panoramic views.
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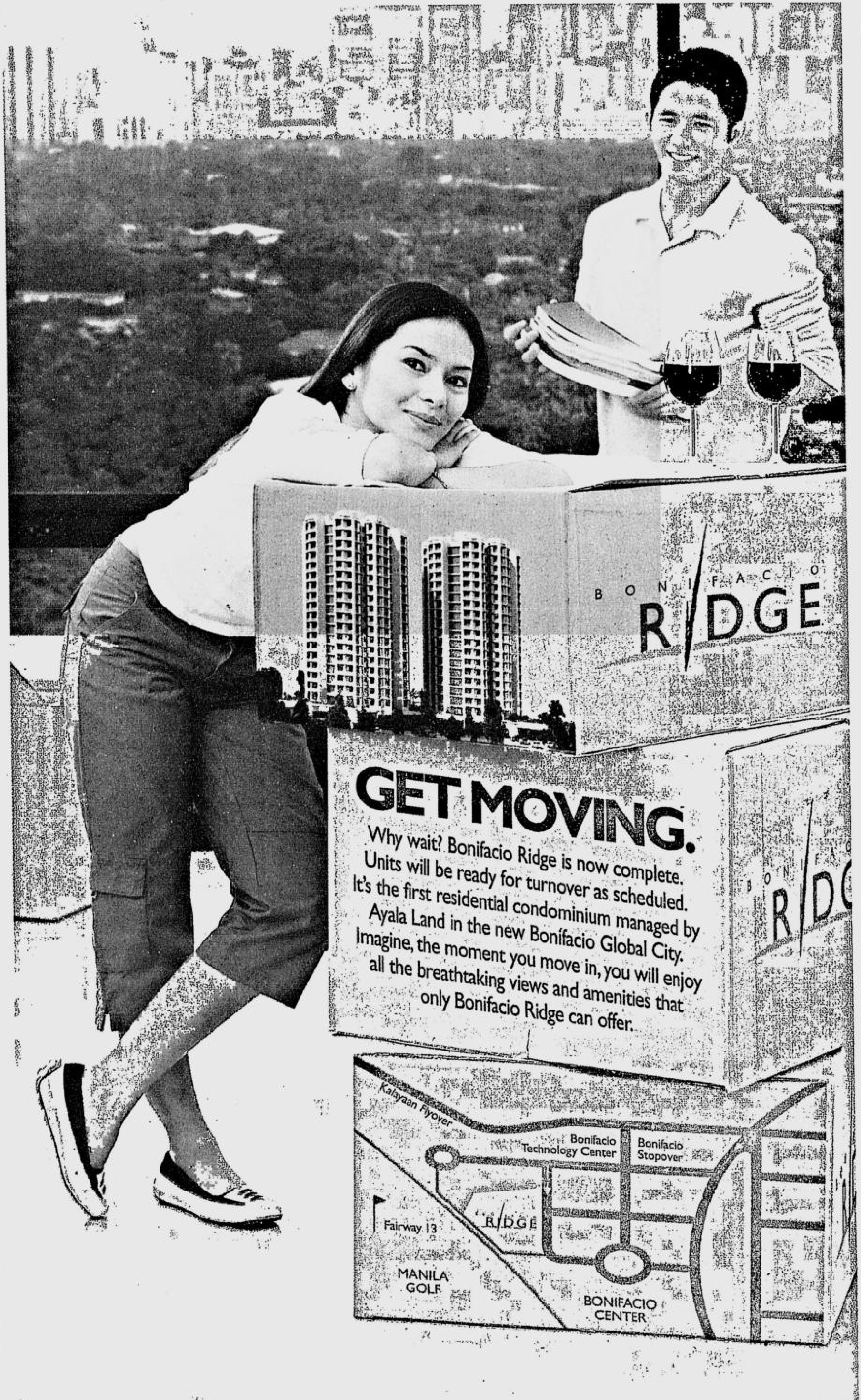

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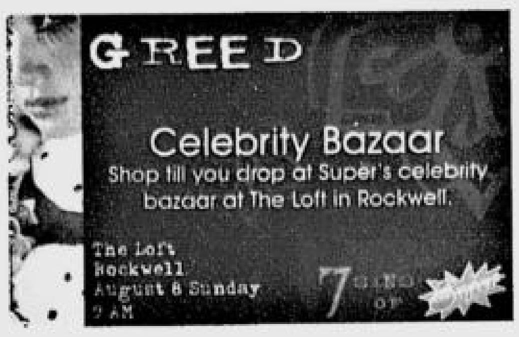
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Editor Louie C. Camino

'Barretto feud could end with a phone call'

REVILLAME. "Gretchen didn't hire me." TERRY HEARSEY

By Nini Valera

A SIMPLE text message or a phone call from one party to another could mend the rift between Gretchen Barretto on one side and her sisters Marjorie and Claudine and Marjorie's husband, Dennis Padilla, on the other side.

"The problem is they stopped talking to each other," comedian and TV host Willie Revillame said on Friday.

Willie was supposedly the subject of a heated argument between Gretchen and Dennis that started the family feud.

"All this is miscommunication, because they don't talk to each other. There's also ego and pride involved. If only one of them would make the first move by sending a text message or by calling, then this would not have gone this far. Gretchen could have asked Marjorie and Dennis if they were responsible for the write-up that she was reacting to. Marjorie and Dennis could have just talked to Gretchen."

Leave them alone

Willie said the parties involved are all hurting "because they love each other dearly. I've known Gretchen for the longest time. I also know Dennis very well. I'm close to both of them. I know Dennis will never say such things.

"If only the industry would leave family fights within the family, the feud among the (Barretto) sisters would not have gotten out of hand," he said. "This is my advice to the industry: Leave family matters to the family to settle."

Gretchen had admitted on "The Buzz," the Sunday show biz talk show on ABS-CBN, last week that she and Dennis had exchanged harsh words the last time they talked in February.

ABC 5, which is owned by Gretchen's live-in partner, Tony Boy Cojuangco, had offered to hire Willie after ABS-CBN dropped him from "MTB" for repeatedly cracking sex-colored jokes on the air that caught the attention of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board.

Dennis lost his "MTB" job after the network changed the show's format following Willie's departure. Dennis had then questioned Gretchen about the hiring of Willie.

But Willie clarified that Gretchen never offered him a show on ABC 5.

Speaking in Filipino, Willie said Gretchen is "not part of the corporation."

"What happened was she sent me a text message after I appeared on 'The Buzz' to air my side on about my termination from Channel 2 last December," he narrated. "All she said in the text was that for me not to worry and that I had her and Tony's support. What she meant was their support as friends. They did not ask me to transfer to ABC 5. They did not offer me a show. There were no offers."

He said his show on ABC, "Puso o Pera," is produced by the blocktimer Next Sequel Interactive, owned by Enrique Yuchengco of the Yuchengco Group of Companies, with PLDT and PCSO as major sponsors.

BARRETTO/ C6

ABS-CBN set to file 'bigger' case against GMA 7 over Angelo video

By Marinel R. Cruz

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. is set to file a multimillion-peso infringement case tomorrow against its biggest rival network, GMA 7, for the latter's use of ABS-CBN's live video feed of freed hostage Angelo de la Cruz last week.

INQUIRER Entertainment learned last Friday that the infringement case would be bigger than the P100-million libel case GMA 7 filed against ABS-CBN last July 27.

In a statement sent to INQUIRER Entertainment, ABS-CBN pointed out that "GMA 7 openly admitted that it used more than two minutes of ABS-CBN's live video feed of De la Cruz despite knowing that this is not allowed.

"(GMA Network) also knows that (ABS-CBN's) contract with Reuters and CNN prohibits the use of any video without permission," especially for locally based stations, the ABS-CBN statement said.

According to ABS-CBN, the De la Cruz video was "clearly marked" "No Access to Philippines." This means the video was intended only for ABS-CBN and international networks such as Reuters and CNN, and no other Philippine station, including GMA 7, could use it without ABS-CBN's consent.

"It is well-known in the community that ABS-CBN has always provided live coverage to Reuters and Associated Press for their international broadcasts," said the ABS-CBN statement.

"The whole ABS-CBN workforce has made every effort in bringing the Filipino people, as well as the whole world, the latest news and video," the ABS-CBN statement added. "It has strived to uphold the interests of the viewers, advertisers and the whole nation above its own. While ABS-CBN respects the right of the rival network to file any case against it, (ABS-CBN) shall remain committed to thwart any efforts aimed at silencing the truth."

GMA Network had filed the libel case last week "after ABS-CBN blatantly and repeatedly accused the

ABS-CBN/ C6

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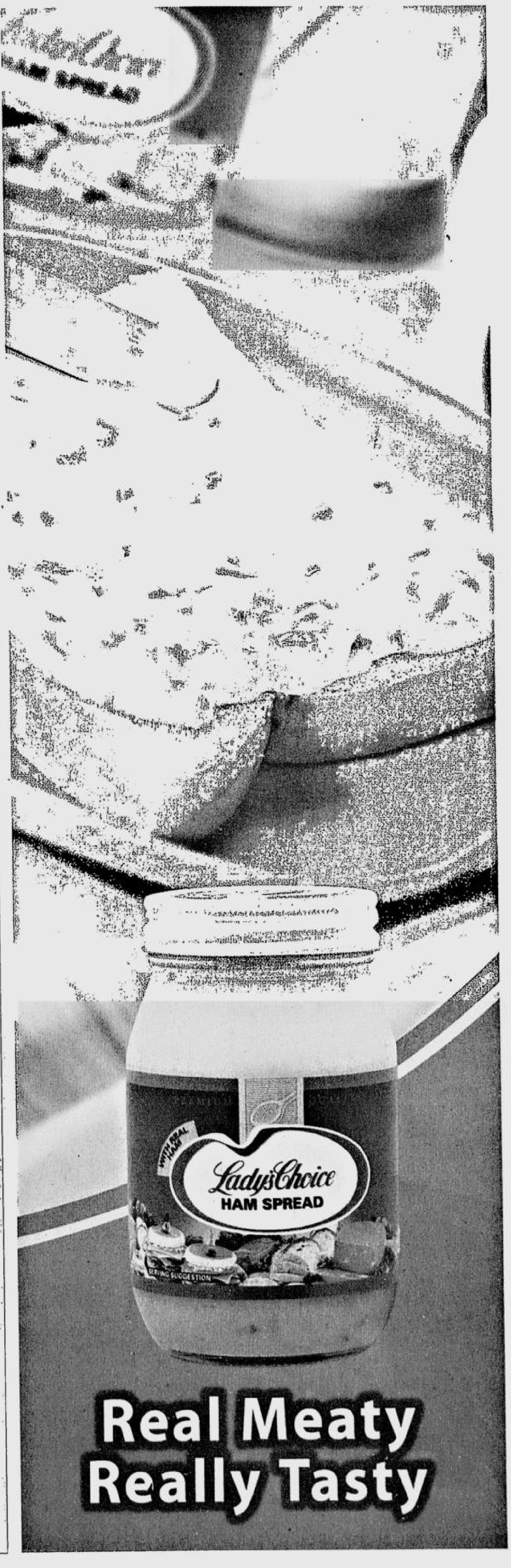
ABS-CBN DZMM 630 KHZ
RADYO PATROL SAIS TRENTA



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THX 1 CATWOMAN	1 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	1 CATWOMAN	5 ALONG CAME POLLY	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 I, ROBOT 2 00, 4 15, 6 30, 8 45, 11 00	1 CATWOMAN
2 I, ROBOT	2 CATWOMAN	2 ELLA ENCHANTED	6 I, ROBOT	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 CATWOMAN 2 10 4 30 6 50 9 10 11 30	2 ELLA ENCHANTED
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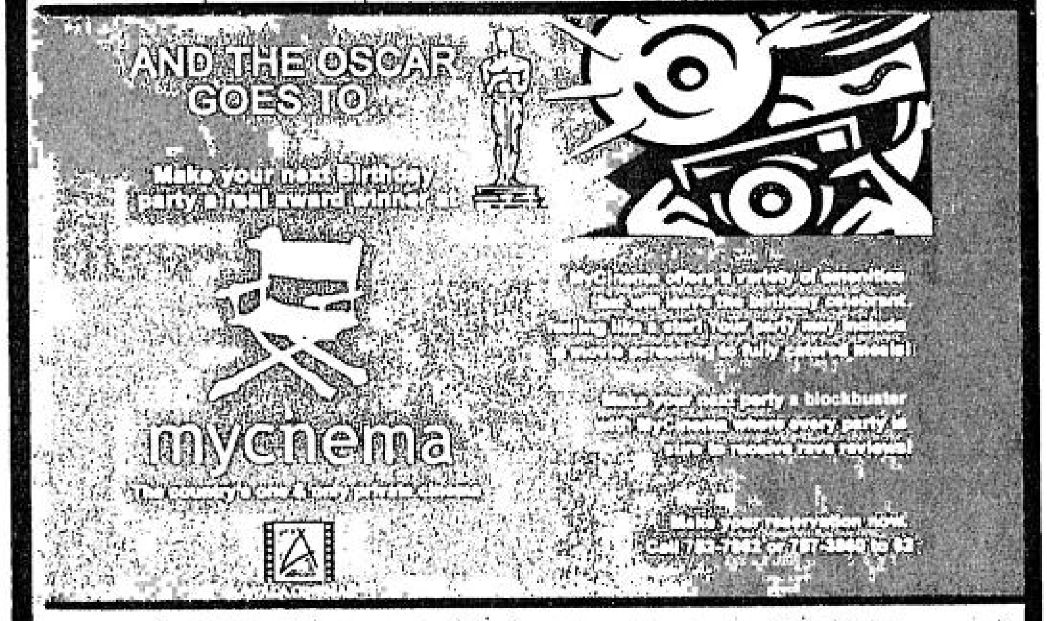

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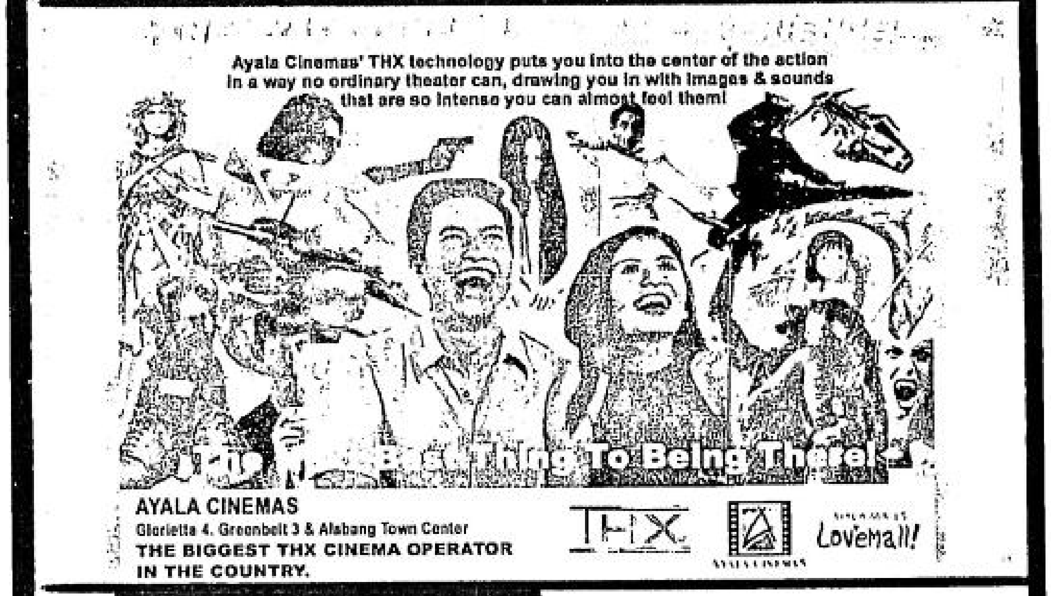
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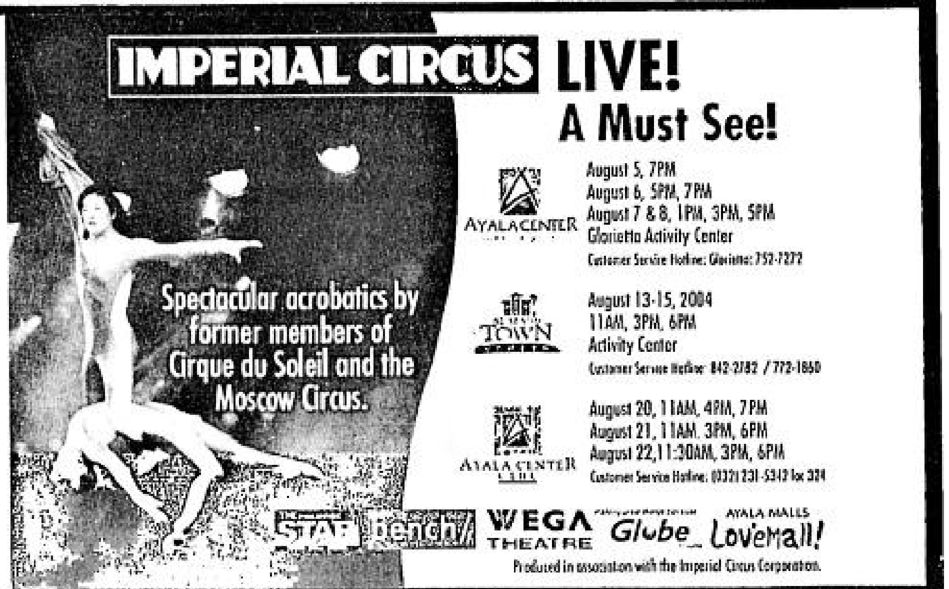
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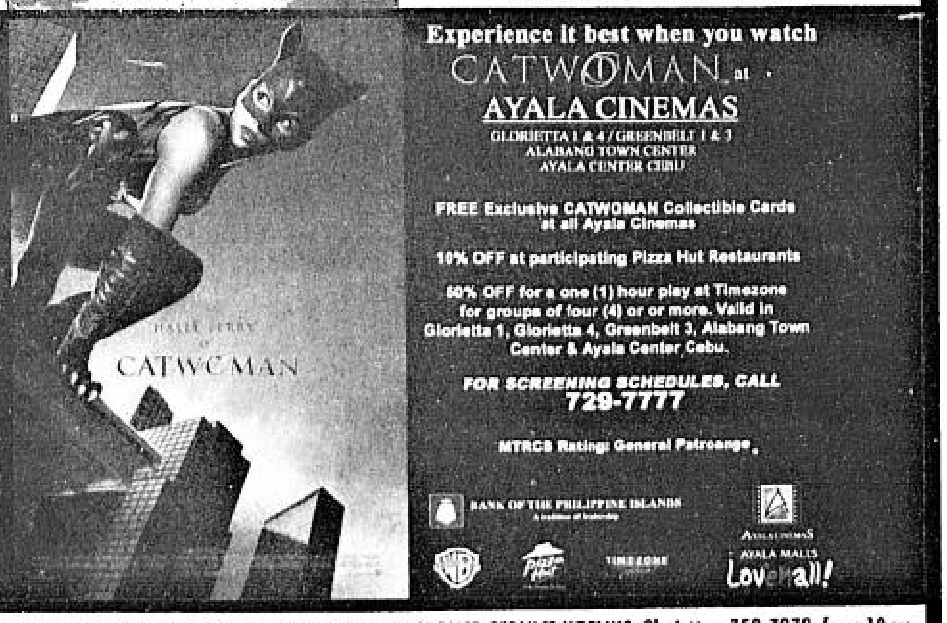

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DID YOU KNOW...

Tessie Tomas was seen dining with her British husband **Roger Pullin** last Tuesday night at Le Soufflé at The Fort in the Global City of Taguig. At a nearby table was **Princess Punzalan**, also with a male foreigner and a female. **Randy Santiago** and wife **Marilou** came in after 9 p.m.

DE LAS ALAS

SHOW TIME

Ai-Ai reigns on radio

AI-AI de las Alas, who recently played the role of a superheroine in the Star Cinema movie "Volta," is really a supermom in real life. The single mother raised her three children kids on her own, providing them with a loving home, good education and food on the table. Her great affection for her kids is the driving force that makes Ai-Ai strive hard in her every endeavor.

In a recent interview, the comedienne said one of her biggest dreams is to have a hit album. She has earned the titles Comedy Queen, Concert Queen and Blockbuster Queen. She is on her way to becoming Queen of the Airwaves, too, with the release of her single "Tanging Ina N'yo." The single is a dramatic yet amusing take on being a mother. Even kids can relate to the song, for it makes them realize and appreciate the importance of their moms. Lito Camo wrote the song.

"Ang Tanging Ina N'yo" the album from Star Records also includes "Volta," "Dance-phabet," "Tong Twalya," "Si Manloloko" and "Super Papa."

Ai-Ai tours the malls to promote her album—SM North Edsa on Aug. 7, SM Bacoor on Aug. 21, and SM Manila on Aug. 28.

"Ang Tanging Ina N'yo" is available on CDs and cassettes at record stores nationwide, from Star Records.

'30 Days' shows its true colors

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

AS OF this writing (July 30), the 10 original finalists of Channel 7's "30 Days" "second chances" competition for former stars are down to six survivors. The last two to be dropped were **William Thio** and **Anna Larrucea.**

Thio was an "expected casualty" because of his skittishness in performance, but Larrucea was doing better, so we were sorry that she was dropped so soon.

But the former child star should take heart because she's proved despite her short stint on the show that producers should give her a good second look now that she's a young-adult performer.

Earlier this week, the tilt changed its tack. Instead of testing or honing the finalists' performing skills, it focused on helping them deal with the unresolved issues in their lives.

One day, former lovers **Diego Castro** and **Raven Villanueva** tried to get over their mutual resentments. The following day, **Jacqui Forster** wept over her long estrangement from her children, and **Jana Victoria** patched things up with her sister.

With this shift in focus, from the professional to the personal, the show is finally showing its true colors. Yes, it's interested in giving former stars a second crack at their show biz careers, but it's also bent on generating ratings by exploiting the personal problems of its remaining finalists.

To be sure, this is nothing new on the local show biz scene, where "stars are public property" and "exploitation with consent" are standard attitudes and practices. So, "30 Days" hasn't invented a new form of psychological torture, that's for sure.

Still, we think it's unfortunate that these obviously talented surviving finalists have to pay their pound of flesh in the name of renewed popularity.

Unless and until both stars and fans realize that the only thing performers really owe to their viewer is a good performance, local entertainment will never become truly professional and self-respecting.

Of course, the remaining finalists will counter they are in no position to make demands regarding the preservation of their privacy. After all, their fate in the tilt is up to the people behind the production, the very people who have decided that this is the way the show should go, with only some 13 telecasting days before it announces its winners.

All the more reason, then, for the show's think tank to assume the responsibility for respecting the finalists' personal issues and pains.

Let's hope that, as soon as possible, "30 Days" will go back to its more proper focus on the *quality* of the performances of its finalists. And we trust that viewers and the finalists' fans will support this move to go back to what *really* counts. Let's all wise up and grow up, shall we?

'Jake 2.0'

CHRISTOPHER Gorham plays the lead role of Jake Foley in Studio 23's new action-adventure series, "Jake 2.0," which starts telecasting on Monday, Aug. 2 at 8 p.m.

In the series, Jake gains superpowers when a vial of experimental serum explodes near him. He soon becomes a top secret agent, while still pretending to be a harmless geek.

World Stunt Awards

STAR Movies' "Extreme Action" will run the exclusive telecast of the fourth annual Taurus World Stunt Awards at 8 p.m. on Aug. 2. **Carmen Elektra** and **Dennis Hopper** host the event, which features appearances by **Keanu Reeves, Brendan Fraser, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Sean William Scott** and **Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.**

Among the unexpected highlights of the awards show for the movie world's top stuntmen was an explosion that created a fireball far bigger than had been planned. It resulted in the near total destruction of the platform stage at Paramount Studios where the show was held.

All those involved escaped unhurt, but even the most experienced stunt people were stunned by what they had witnessed.

'Next Top Model'

WHAT will it take to transform an unknown into the biggest new catwalk star? Find out in the second season of Studio 23's "America's Next Top Model," Sundays at 8:40 p.m.

Tyra Banks is again the show's executive producer, with 12 new finalists out to prove that they can make it in the high-stakes, high-stress world of the supermodel.

'Garfield' screening

MELLOW Touch 94.7 presents the special advanced screening of "Garfield, the Movie" at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 2, at SM Megamall's Cinema 1. Garfield's character is voiced by **Bill Murray**. To win tickets, tune in to 94.7.

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A Japanese Recording Company will be producing an album for a **Solo Female Artist** for Japan market. A Big chance to be a professional singer and Debut Artist in Japan. Auditions & recording will be held in XAX Music in Makati. Interested applicants must have the following qualifications:

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visit us at www.xaxmusic.com

ABS-CBN celebrates Kadayawan festival

SHOW TIME

THIS August, through ABS-CBNs unparalleled reach and technical superiority, Mindanao's Kadayawan festival will be celebrated on radio, television and cable platforms across the nation through the Regional Network Group (RNG) and Studio 23 and, for the first time, across the globe through The Filipino Channel (TFC).

In the same way that ABS-CBN wins the hearts of TV viewers through its shows, the station lends its creative prowess to events for the Kadayawan festival. It will produce the festival's music video, conceptualize promos and contests, and bring together both regional and homegrown ABS-CBN personalities plus Studio 23 talents to add luster to the event.

Over the years, ABS-CBN has been highlighting festivals like Cebu's Sinulog, Bicol's Peñafrancia, Bacolod's Masskara, Baguio's Panagbenga, Iloilo's Dinagyang, Quezon's Pahiyas, and Aklan's Ati-atihan. It intends to continue doing so for these and other regional celebrations.

ABS-CBN's big plans for Kadayawan 2004 are in line with the local government unit's (LGUs) own initiatives in projecting Davao City as Mindanao's center for education, culture and the arts.

ABS-CBN will be a significant part of the events, festivals and other historical and cultural landmarks, making Filipinos around the globe part of every local endeavor, at the national as well as regional levels.

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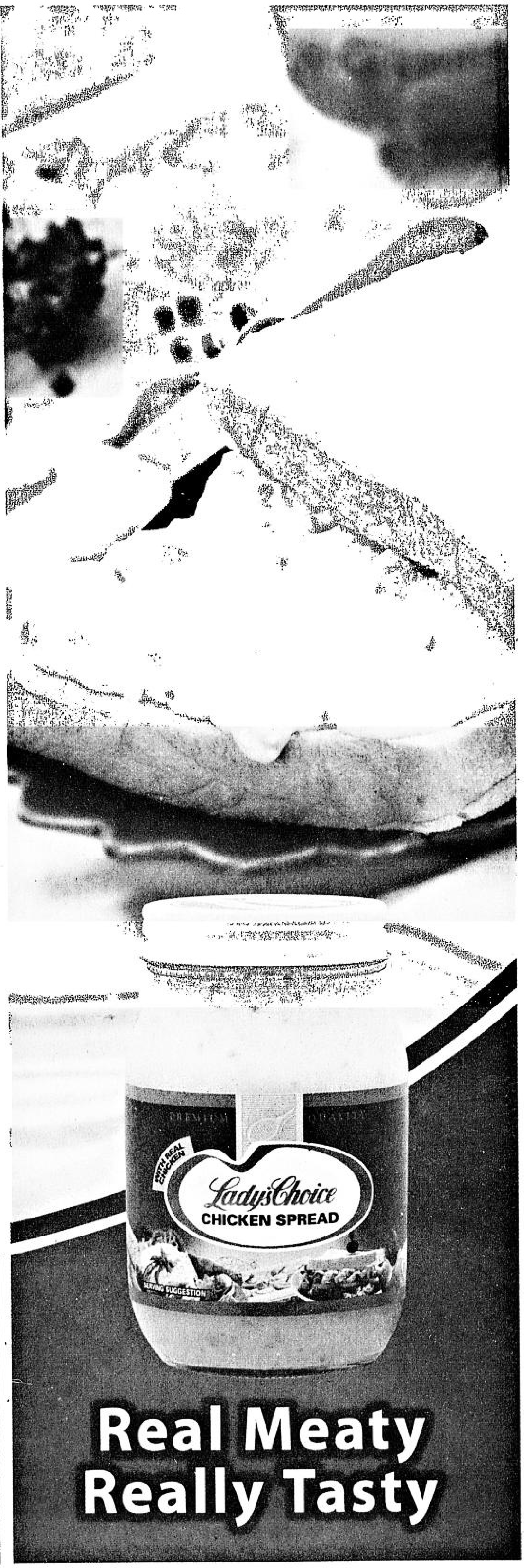

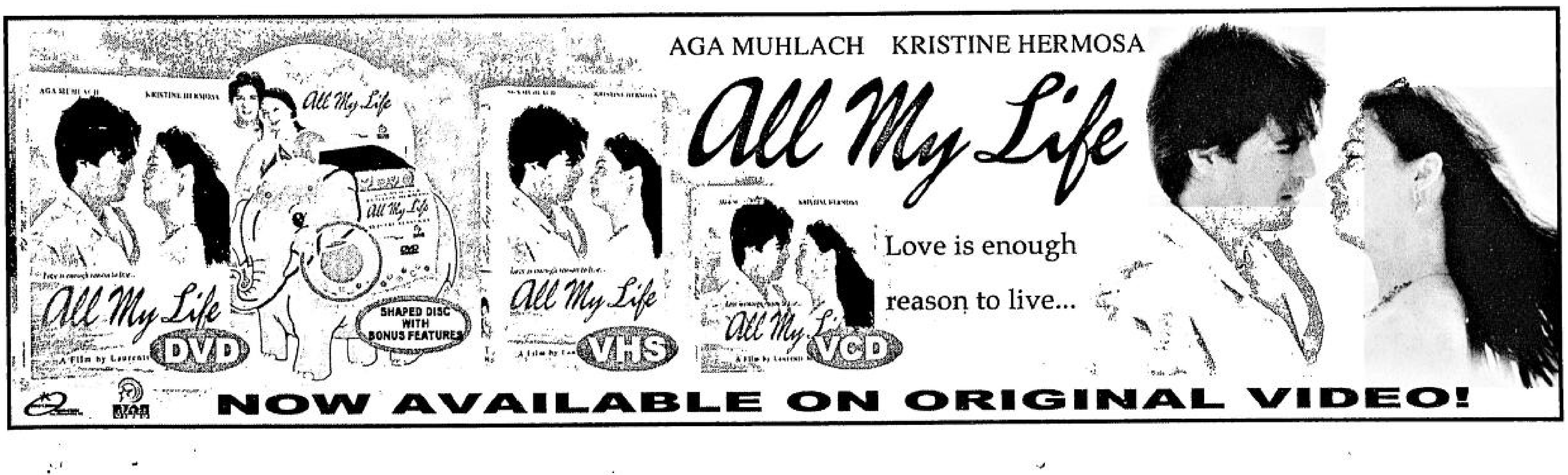
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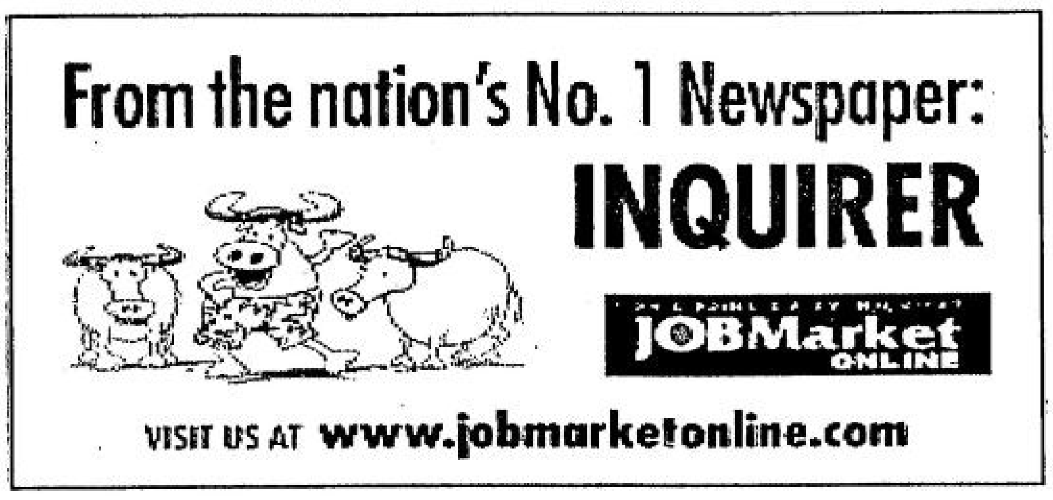
MTV Supahstar search

IF YOU think you've got what it takes to be a star, then head for the SM Supermalls and join the MTV Supahstar Search. Get ready as MTV visits SM City Cebu on Aug. 5, SM City Davao on Aug. 8, SM City Baguio on Aug. 12, and SM Megamall on Aug. 28. All auditions are from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The contest is open to non-professional male and female singers, 18 to 25 years old. The winner will bring home P1 million worth of prizes, including an exclusive recording contract and a grand launching concert.

For more details, check out MTV Supahstar posters and print ads or tune in to MTV on Channel 41 for free TV, or Sky Cable and Home Cable. MTV Supahstar is presented by Smart Buddy, Petron Treats and SMB Play. Special thanks to SM Supermalls, Manila Bulletin, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Sun.Star Cebu, Magic 89.9, Wave 89.1, Monster Radio RX 93.1, BT 105.9 Cebu, 99.5 Davao, Killer Bee, Charlie 101.9, Danni 101.9, Jesse 102.3, and MTV Ink.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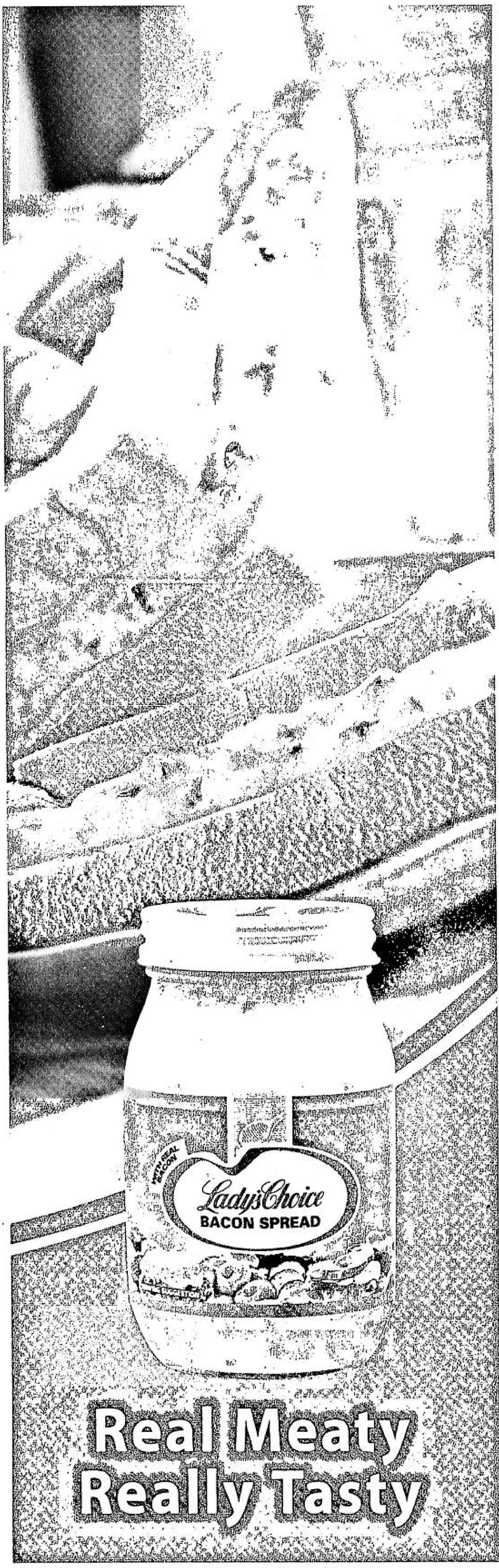
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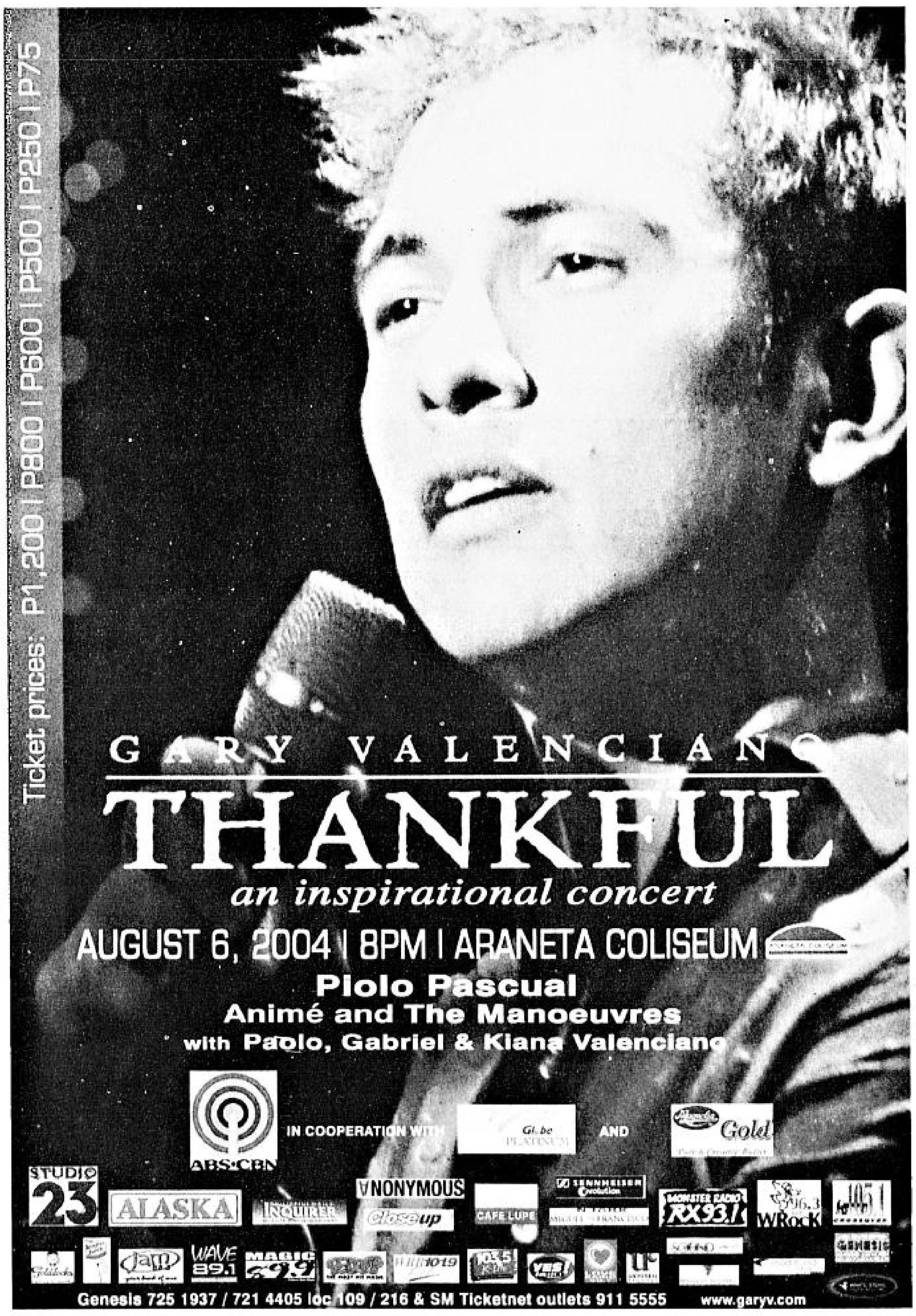
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Paolo Bediones, ambassador of badminton

By Jocelyn Valle
Contributor

PAOLO Bediones, as one of TV world's busiest people, is seen on the tube eight times a week.

He gives viewers an inside look on how celebrities outdo each other on the reality program, "Extra Challenge," Monday to Saturday. He is quiz master on "Digital LG Challenge" every Sunday morning, and an interviewer on "S-Files" every Sunday afternoon.

But do you know where Paolo is between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m.? He's in a badminton hub in New Manila in Quezon City, tossing and smashing shuttlecocks.

Sometimes, says Paolo, his fellow GMA 7 talent Rufa Mae Quinto and some of her coworkers in the comedy series "Marinara" join him at his nocturnal haunt. His girlfriend, who's not from show business, also trades shots with him in the court, he says.

"Badminton makes me feel good," beams Paolo, whose first TV job was co-hosting the sports program "Game Plan" in 1996. "I'm into a lot of sports like basketball, volleyball and scuba diving. But I've hurt myself while playing basketball, and Batangas is the nearest place for scuba diving.

"Badminton is just perfect," adds the show host.

'Smash!'

Paolo picked up the sport only last October and fell in love with it instantly. Four months later, he became one of the five owners of the badminton place Toss and Smash, which is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. So now we know why he and his friends can play even when it's in the middle of the night.

Paolo disagrees that badminton has reached its peak and is now on its way out. "It has already built up a solid fan base who've benefited from regular playing, like, they've lost weight," he says. "In badminton, you can really see the results."

As for the horrific tales that circulate on the Internet regarding the robbery incidents in badminton centers, Paolo assures prospective players that security is quite good at Toss and Smash. Although he makes a very convincing pitch, Paolo insists that his recent business venture (he's also into real estate and running a production house) is not profit-oriented.

BEDIONES hosts an instructional video.

"I would like to be called the ambassador of badminton," he declares. He's elated to be hosting not another TV show but an instructional video on the sport. As the title suggests, "Smash! Badminton for Everyone," which comes in VCD and DVD formats, promises to teach the ABCs of the game, and gives tips on safety and fashion in the court, says Paolo.

"But I'm not the instructor here," he stresses. "Butch Oreta and Nelson Asuncion, current and former coaches of the national team, are the teachers. They are supported by Kennie and Kennevic Asunsion, the top badminton players in the country today."

One of a few

The 30-year-old host with the height (5-foot-11 ½) and build of an athlete believes that Filipinos have the potential to excel in the sport. "In five years, we may be able to produce champions," he says. "Right now, we're so behind compared to other countries. That's why we, especially the government, have to support our athletes."

Paolo may be very passionate about his newfound love, but his heart still belongs to his entertainment career. "I don't take it for granted," he avers. "I'm not threatened by newcomers. I've tried everything. Come to think of it, there are just a few of us male hosts in the business."

He's now bent on encouraging the new ones, like his "Extra Challenge" co-hosts Phoemela Barranda and Ethel Booba, into loving the craft. And contrary to rumors, the two women get along pretty well, says Paolo. "They even go to gimmicks together. The problem with Ethel is she forgets to tell people when she's joking."

In a recent episode of the show biz talk show "S-Files," where Ethel was interviewed live by three entertainment reporters, she said she didn't like Phoemela, who won in the contest that picked the replacement for Paolo's former partner, Miriam Quiambao. "I was the texters' choice so I should have won," Ethel had said.

"And she forgot to say that she was only joking," Paolo points out.

P68 million

Aside from being a host and a confidant of his co-hosts, Paolo is also a creative consultant of "Extra Challenge." He happily reports that the show is doing very well.

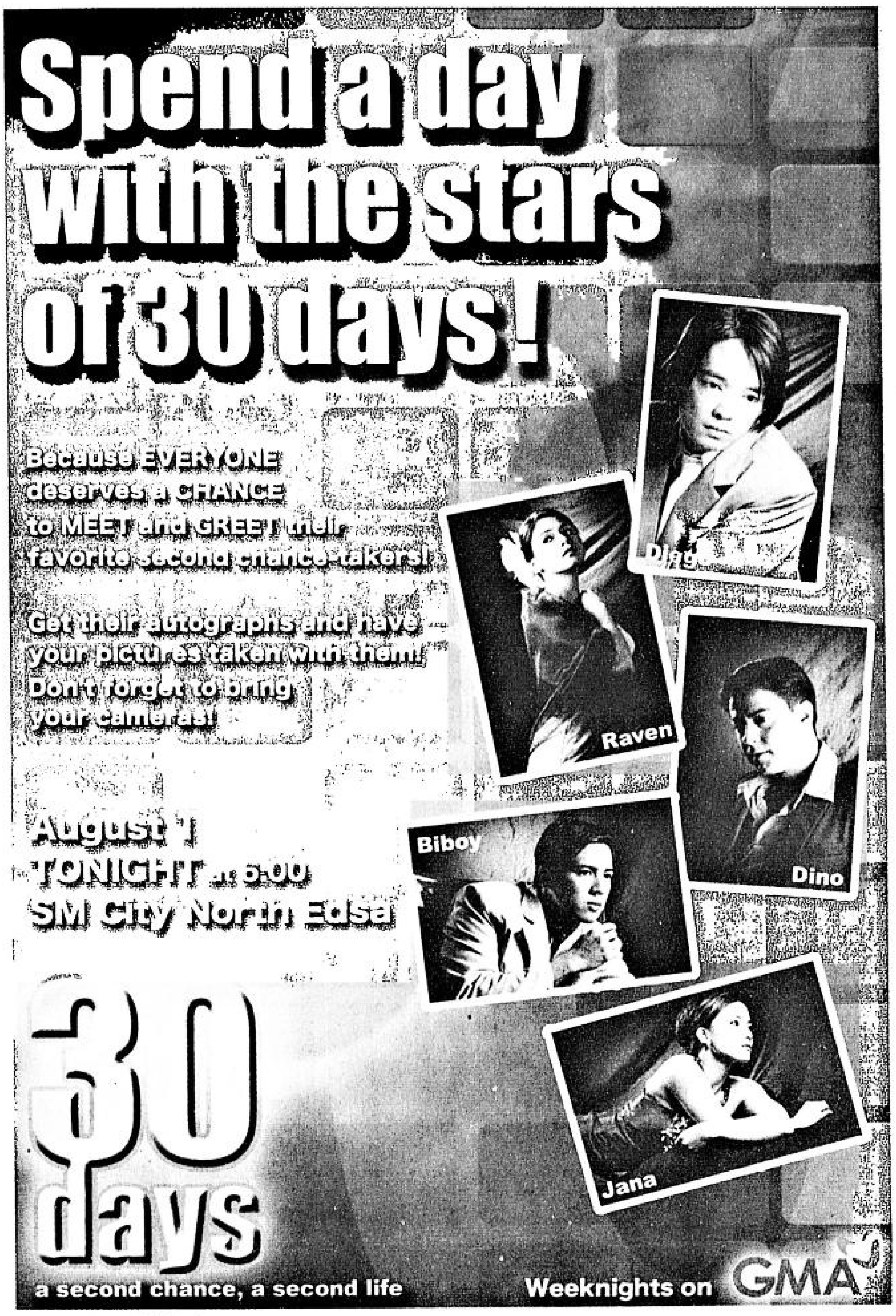
The recent Thailand episode, where couples Bernard Palanca and Rica Peralejo, Sunshine Dizon and Frank Garcia, and Manny Pacquiao and his wife Jinky participated, was most enjoyable and the most expensive so far, says Paolo.

"It cost us about two million pesos, but it's OK," he says. "For June alone, we earned 68 million pesos."

The Thailand group also caused the least headache for the production, says Paolo. He explains that the participants are paid according to their rate per taping day. They get additional cash when they emerge as the winner in the challenge. If they quit, they will get only half of their talent fee.

"We choose the contestants based on the requirements of the challenge," says Paolo.

Now airing is an episode, for instance, where a group made up of personalities like Alicia Meyer and Alfred Vargas travels to Sagada together in a small van that doesn't have air conditioning. The participants take turns at driving the hot van.



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Winners of Viva's Mina Aragon screenwriting contest named

"BABAE, Itinatakwil Mo Ba Si Lalake?" an engrossing look into the macho culture in rural Philippines written by Jimmy Flores, copped the first prize in the FSR Screenwriting Contest conducted by the Viva Foundation for the Arts.

This was announced last July 26, a day after the 56th birthday of the late Fermina Salvador-del Rosario, one of the prime movers of Viva Films.

Flores, an advertising agency creative director, won the cash prize of P250,000 from Viva and a trophy from Kodak Entertainment Imaging.

The second prize winner is "Ang Pangako," a uniquely conceived story of a father's search for his missing son, by Princess Feliciano, who won P150,000 and a Kodak trophy.

The third prize winner is "Lihim," a gripping thriller about people caught up in a web of deceit, co-written by brothers Leandro and Oliver Mendez, who won P75,000 and a trophy.

Winning an honorable mention prize of P10,000 each from Viva were "Isang Bato" by Rose Marie Pua, "Unang Ulan" by Dennis Teodosio, "Kalyehera" by Ronald Batallones, "Ikaw at Ako" by Mercy Omaking, "Panga-pangarap Kita" by Ma. Clarissa Estuar, and "ASL PLS!" by Ma. Cherry Rose Araniego.

The judges for the FSR Screenwriting Contest were film critic and television host Butch Francisco, film critic and University of the Philippines professor Gigi Alfonso, screenwriter Bing Lao, TV and commercial director Rico Gutierrez, Baby Gil of Viva Foundation for the Arts, and student filmmaker Valerie del Rosario.

Open to both established and aspiring screenwriters, the FSR Screenwriting Contest was created in memory of Fermina Salvador-del Rosario for her unwavering support of local creative talents and her pioneering efforts in Philippine cinema. The former actress known as Mina Aragon also distinguished herself with her uncanny taste for film materials that resulted in many award-winning box-office hits for Viva Films.

August performances at Shang's Streetscape

THE NEW month of August sizzles with hot performances at the Streetscape at the Shangri-La Plaza in Mandaluyong City.

Real Groove performs on Aug. 6. On Aug. 7, it's the turn of the retro band Spirit of '67 and Flintstones. It is the first time that Spirit of '67 is performing outdoors.

On Aug. 13, the band 1728 is on. Mocha with Spin Art goes onstage on Aug. 14, while George takes its turn on Aug. 20.

Rockin' Revival is on Aug. 21.

Fursurkle performs on Aug. 27, and Passage and Retrospect do their thing on Aug. 28.

Shangri-La Plaza at the corner of Edsa and Shaw Boulevard is DT/PRA's "Best Shopping Center of 2003." For more information, call 633-7851.

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ABS-CBN set to file 'bigger' case . . .

From page C1

network of stealing their Angelo de la Cruz footage," GMA 7 said in a statement. Charged with libel were ABS-CBN chair and CEO Eugenio Lopez III, president Luis Alejandro, news anchor Erwin Tulfo, reporter Lynda Jumilla, SVP for news and current affairs Jose Ramon Olivares, VP for news operations Jesus Maderazo, VP for news productions Luisita Cruz-Valdes, AVP for news operations Jose Magsaysay Jr., director for news operations Alfonso Marquez;

"Insider" executive producer Beth Frondoso, "Magandang Umaga Bayan" supervising producer Maria Progena Estonilo Reyes, "Magandang Umaga Bayan" executive producer Annie Eugenio, and "News Patrol" executive producer Dondi Garcia.

GMA 7's libel complaint stemmed from statements made by Tulfo and Jumilla accusing GMA 7 of stealing, on the July 22 edition of ABS-CBN's news program "Insider" and on the July 23 edition of the morning current affairs program "Magandang Umaga Bayan."

GMA 7 had said it has never been its policy or practice to air footage that it is not authorized to put on the air.

Last July 22, GMA 7's hourly news update, "Flash Report," carried Reuters' live video footage from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on De la Cruz's arrival. GMA 7 alternately used its own footage with those beamed live by Reuters.

GMA 7 said that when ABS-CBN reporter Dindo Amparo appeared on the live Reuters feed, GMA 7 immediately stopped broadcasting the Reuters pictures and switched to CNN's live coverage of the event. But CNN was also picking up Reuters' live video feed, according to GMA 7 VP for legal affairs Dick Perez.

GMA 7 is a subscriber to both Reuters and CNN.

Both GMA 7 and ABS-CBN have been showing regular plugs explaining their stand on the issue.

Barretto feud could end . . .

From page C1

"It was (PCSO Chair) Honeygirl de Leon who got me for the show," Willie said.

But he admitted that he had talked to Tony Boy Cojuangco and other ABC 5 executives shortly after he left ABS-CBN. The talks, however, were merely exploratory, he claimed.

"They asked me what my plans were," Willie said. "I asked them in turn if they had plans for me."

Then came the offer to host "Puso o Pera," he said.

To publicize the show, Willie had an interview with another newspaper where he talked about how touched he was by Gretchen's text message, the comedian said.

He said that after the interview was published, Gretchen had called him up, telling him that Dennis was asking if it was true that she had hired him for ABC 5.

"She denied hiring me because she really did not hire me," Willie said.

Distorted

Dennis, meanwhile, was upset thinking that Gretchen had lied to him, Willie said.

"So it should have been over, it was just a misunderstanding," Willie said in Filipino. "But it was written about in a magazine, and the issues had been distorted. Dennis told me he did not talk to the writer. Gretchen also did not talk to anybody, but she thought it was Dennis and Marjorie who were behind the write-up."

The problem got out of hand after Claudine talked about the fight, Willie said. Then came their mother Inday Barretto's interview on "The Buzz" last Sunday, where Gretchen also aired her pain.

"It grew bigger," Willie said. "I didn't want to be involved. I said I would only talk if both sides had talked already."

Despite the controversy, Willie is in an upbeat mood. His "Pito-Pito" album has just been repackaged to include "Ikaw ang #1," by Vehnee Saturno, and a duet with Ethel Booba, "Sabi Mo, Sabi Ko (I Luv U, I Luv U 2)," by Lito Camo.

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1 (DOLBY EX) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3 (DTS ES) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 MEAN GIRLS
2 IMELDA
3 (DOLBY) I - ROBOT
4 (DTS) CATWOMAN

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 MEAN GIRLS
2 IMELDA
3 (DOLBY) KING ARTHUR
4 (DTS) PRINCE & ME

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 WALKING TALL
2 KING ARTHUR

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) CATWOMAN
2 (DOLBY) CATWOMAN
3 (DOLBY) I - ROBOT
4 (DOLBY) ELLA ENCHANTED

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 837.0926
1 PERLAS
2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
3 (DTS) CATWOMAN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 MEAN GIRLS
2 (DTS) I - ROBOT
3 (DOLBY) CATWOMAN
4 MEAN GIRLS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
2 (DOLBY) I - ROBOT
3 (DTS) CATWOMAN
4 MEAN GIRLS

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 PRINCE & ME
2 LIBERATED - 2
3 (DOLBY) KING ARTHUR

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 LIBERATED - 2
2 KILL BILL - 2
3 (DOLBY) KING ARTHUR
4 (DTS) MEAN GIRLS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3327
1 I - ROBOT
2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
3 (DOLBY) MEAN GIRLS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) AROUND THE WORLD
2 PERLAS
3 KISKISAN
4 (DTS) HAPPY HOUR

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) I ROBOT
2 LIBERATED 2
3 (DTS) CATWOMAN
4 PERLAS
5 MEAN GIRLS

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 LIBERATED - 2
2 KING ARTHUR
3 (DTS) CATWOMAN
4 (DOLBY) I - ROBOT

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 I ROBOT
2 PRINCE & ME
3 KING ARTHUR
4 CATWOMAN

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 AROUND THE WORLD
2 PERLAS

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SM movietime
SM CINEMA

NOW SHOWING

Central

SM MEGAMALL 6331901	SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749	SM CITY MANILA 5239240
1 CATWOMAN	1 IMELDA	1 ELLA ENCHANTED
2 SPIDERMAN 2	2 LIBERATED 2	2 I, ROBOT
3 I, ROBOT	3 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS	3 IMELDA
4 KING ARTHUR	4 I, ROBOT	4 CATWOMAN
5 ELLA ENCHANTED	5 CATWOMAN	5 KING ARTHUR
6 IMELDA	6 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	6 CATWOMAN
7 WEREWOL(GINGERSNAPS 2)	7 CATWOMAN	7 ALONG CAME POLLY
8 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS	8 SPIDERMAN 2	8 PRINCE AND ME
9 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	9 ELLA ENCHANTED	9 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
10 CATWOMAN	10 KING ARTHUR	10 LIBERATED 2
11 ALONG CAME POLLY	11 ALONG CAME POLLY	11 SPIDERMAN 2
12 LIBERATED 2	12 WEREWOLF(GINGERSNAPS 2)	12 BEAUTIFUL LIFE

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452	SM CITY STA. MESA 7149522 • 7161416	SM CINEMA TUTUBAN 2514302
1 CATWOMAN	1 I, ROBOT	1 CATWOMAN
2 ELLA ENCHANTED	2 KING ARTHUR	2 I, ROBOT
3 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	3 ELLA ENCHANTED	3 ELLA ENCHANTED
4 KING ARTHUR	4 IMELDA	4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
5 IMELDA	5 CATWOMAN	
6 SPIDERMAN 2	6 ALONG CAME POLLY	
7 I, ROBOT	7 CATWOMAN	
8 CATWOMAN	8 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS	
	9 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	
	10 SPIDERMAN 2	

North

SM CITY MARILAO (044) 933 2013 to 17	SM CITY PAMPANGA 7128015	SM CITY BAGUIO (074) 4464505
1 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS	1 CATWOMAN	1 CATWOMAN
2 KING ARTHUR	2 I, ROBOT	2 ELLA ENCHANTED
3 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	3 PRINCE & ME	3 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
4 I, ROBOT	4 IMELDA	4 I, ROBOT
	5 LIBERATED 2	
	6 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	

South

SM CITY LAS PIÑAS 8066888	SM CITY BICUTAN 7763055	SM CITY BACOOR (046)4173868
1 IMELDA	1 CATWOMAN	1 ALONG CAME POLLY
2 ELLA ENCHANTED	2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	2 ELLA ENCHANTED
3 CATWOMAN	3 ELLA ENCHANTED	3 CATWOMAN
4 I, ROBOT	4 I, ROBOT	4 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
5 SPIDERMAN 2		5 KING ARTHUR
6 LIBERATED 2		6 I, ROBOT
7 BEAUTIFUL LIFE		7 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
8 RAGNAROKI		8 SPIDERMAN 2
9 KING ARTHUR		
10 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS		

SM SUPER CENTER SUCAT 8294975	SM CITY DASMA (046) 4323201-04	SM CITY LUCENA (042) 7108977-80
1 ELLA ENCHANTED	1 I,ROBOT	1 CATWOMAN
2 I, ROBOT	2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	2 ELLA ENCHANTED
3 CATWOMAN	3 PRINCE & ME	3 IMELDA
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	4 CATWOMAN	4 I, ROBOT

Visayas & Mindanao

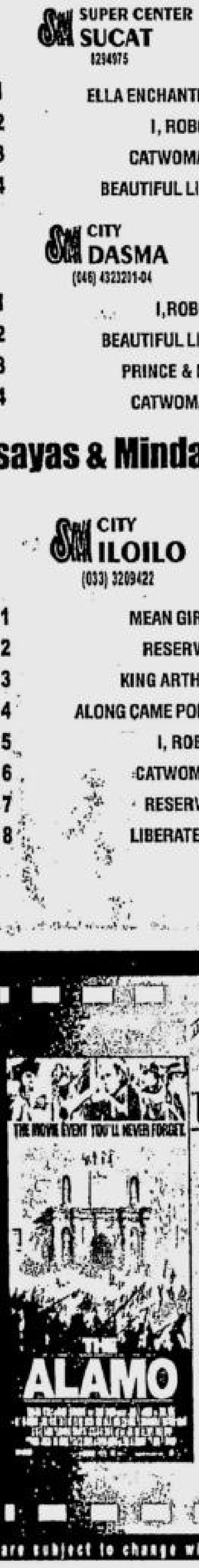
SM CITY CEBU (032) 2313876	SM CITY ILOILO (033) 3209422	SM CITY DAVAO (082) 2976998	SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 8592884
1 CATWOMAN	1 MEAN GIRLS	1 CATWOMAN	1 CATWOMAN
2 I, ROBOT	2 RESERVED	2 LIBERATED 2	2 I, ROBOT
3 ELLA ENCHANTED	3 KING ARTHUR	3 BEAUTIFUL LIFE	3 CATWOMAN
4 KING ARTHUR	4 ALONG CAME POLLY	4 IMELDA	4 KING ARTHUR
5 WEREWOLF(GINGERSNAPS 2)	5 I, ROBOT	5 ELLA ENCHANTED	
6 IMELDA	6 CATWOMAN	6 I, ROBOT	
7 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS	7 RESERVED		
8 CATWOMAN	8 LIBERATED 2		

THE PODIUM CINEMA

1
CATWOMAN
10:50 FS/11:20 MF/1:40/4:00/6:20/8:40/ 10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:50 END

2
IMELDA
11:25 FS/ 11:55/2:05/ 4:15/6:25/8:35/ 10:20 LFS/10:45 LMF/ 12:30 END

For Seat Reservation, call 633 8976
LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS


THE MOVIE EVENT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET.
THE ALAMO

SM CINEMA Critics' CHOICE
USA

AN SM CINEMA EXCLUSIVE

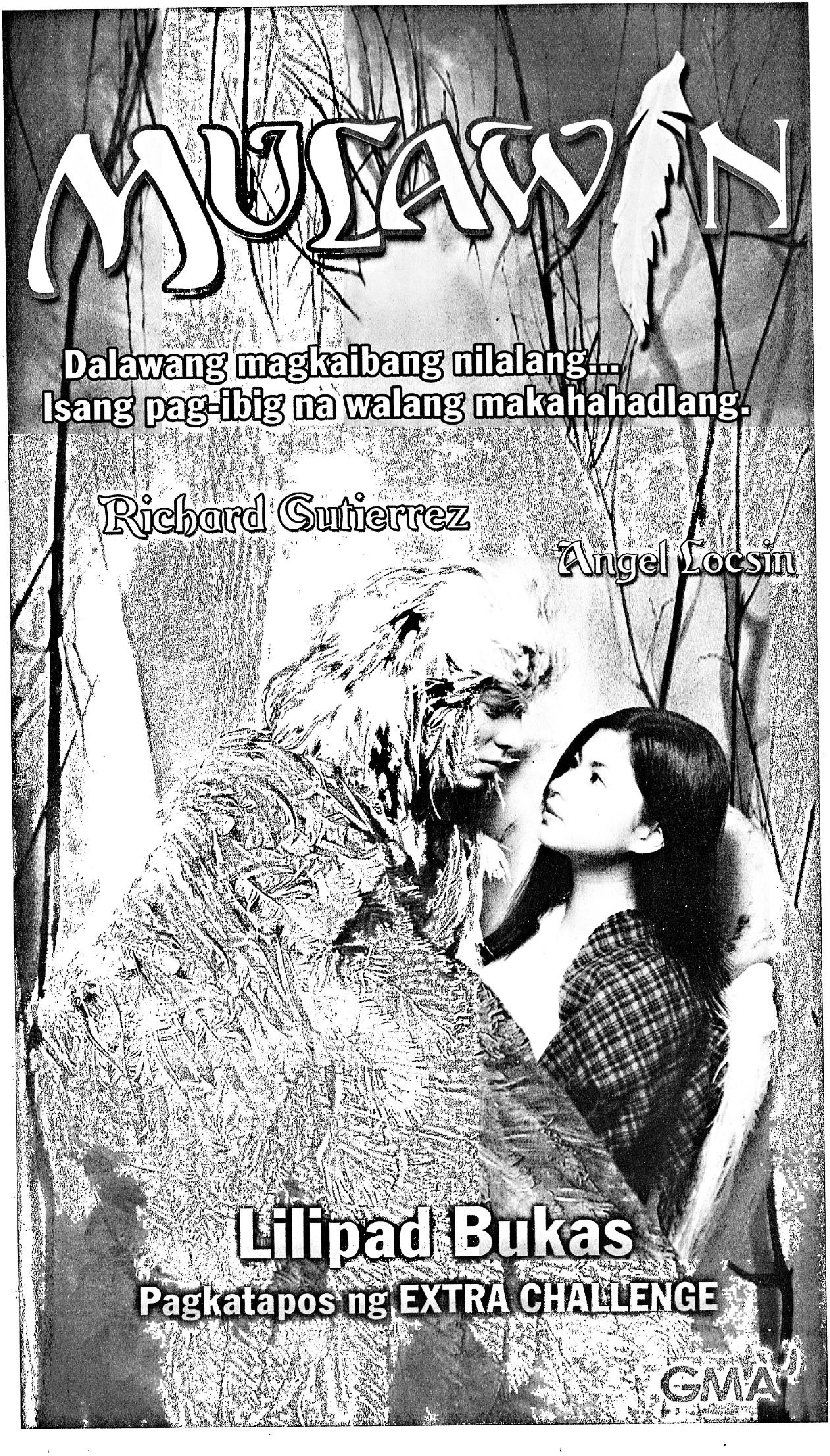
THE ALAMO

Dennis Quaid (The Day After Tomorrow) stars in this movie, set in the spring of 1836. Nearly 200 Texans – men of all races who believed in the future of Texas – held the fort for 13 days under siege by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, ruler of Mexico and commander of its forces. Led by three men – the young, brash Col. William Travis; the violent, passionate James Bowie; and the larger-than-life living legend David Crockett – the Texans and their deeds at the Alamo would pass into history as General Sam Houston's rallying cry for Texas independence and into legend for their symbolic significance.

Starts Aug. 4
SM Megamall
SM City Manila

MTRCB RATING. PG13
For Screening schedules, Dial 633.9999

Movies are subject to change without prior notice


MULAWIN
Dalawang magkaibang nilalang...
Isang pag-ibig na walang makahahadlang.
Richard Gutierrez
Angel Locsin
Lilipad Bukas
Pagkatapos ng EXTRA CHALLENGE
GMA

Can't choose between Aubrey or Ara?
Get them both!

New SMART 2-in-1 STAR CALLER ringtunes

Get twice the fun!

Imagine Ara & Aubrey answering calls for you. Your two sexy babes will always be ready to greet your callers first before you even say hello. It's double the fun in just one ringtune! Your friends will surely give you a call again and again. It's another hot hit from SMART!

RING NAME	ARTIST	RING ID
Double Time	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100795
Rivals	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100796
Protective	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100797
Busted	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100798
Masseuse	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100799
Finished	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100800
Sharing	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100801
Jealous	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100802
Inviting	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100803
Quality	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100804

2-in-1 Ringtune - P45, valid for 2 months

TO GET 2-IN-1 CALLER RINGTUNE

RING ADD 100800	286
Text **RING ADD <Ring ID>**	Send to **286**

[illegible]	[illegible]
Stars	STARS
Movie Lines	MOVIES
Spoofs	SPOOFS
OPM	OPM
OPM Bands	OPMBANDS
Sound Effects	SFX
Jokes	JOKES

To get the following services	Key in and send to 286
List of newest ringtunes & other categories	WHATSNEW
Hottest Pick of the Week	HOTPICKS
Know Title and Ring ID of a Friend's Ringtune	RING LIST <friend's cellphone number> (Ex. RING LIST 09208140940)
Help (for more info on new features)	HELP

VIA IVR (INTERACTIVE VOICE RECORDING)	Call **1513** and follow the voice instructions.
VIA WAP	Click on ***Amazing Stuff*** link from SMART wapsite then select ***Caller Ringtunes***
VIA WEB	**Listen B4 U Download!** Log on to ***http://ring.smart.com.ph/smart***

GIFTUNE* Give a RINGTUNE to your buddy.
Just text **RING GIFT <Ring ID><friend's cellphone #>** to **286**
(ex. RING GIFT 100800 09208140940)

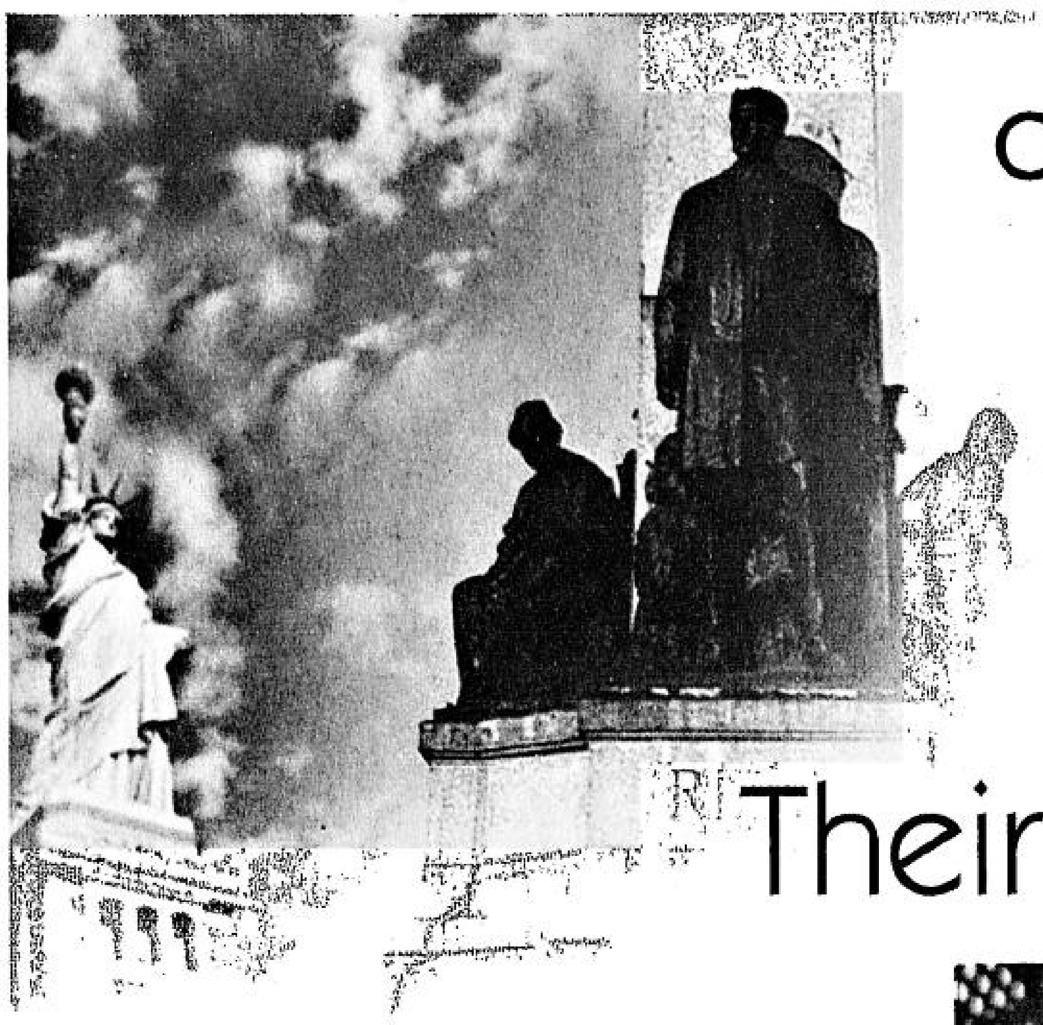
**Giftune will be charged to sender*

Get a chance to win cool stuff!
Visit the SMART Wireless Center from July 10 - Oct. 9, 2004 and download any Caller Ringtune to qualify.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3340. Series of 2004.

For questions, comments or concerns, you may call SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per mesage sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

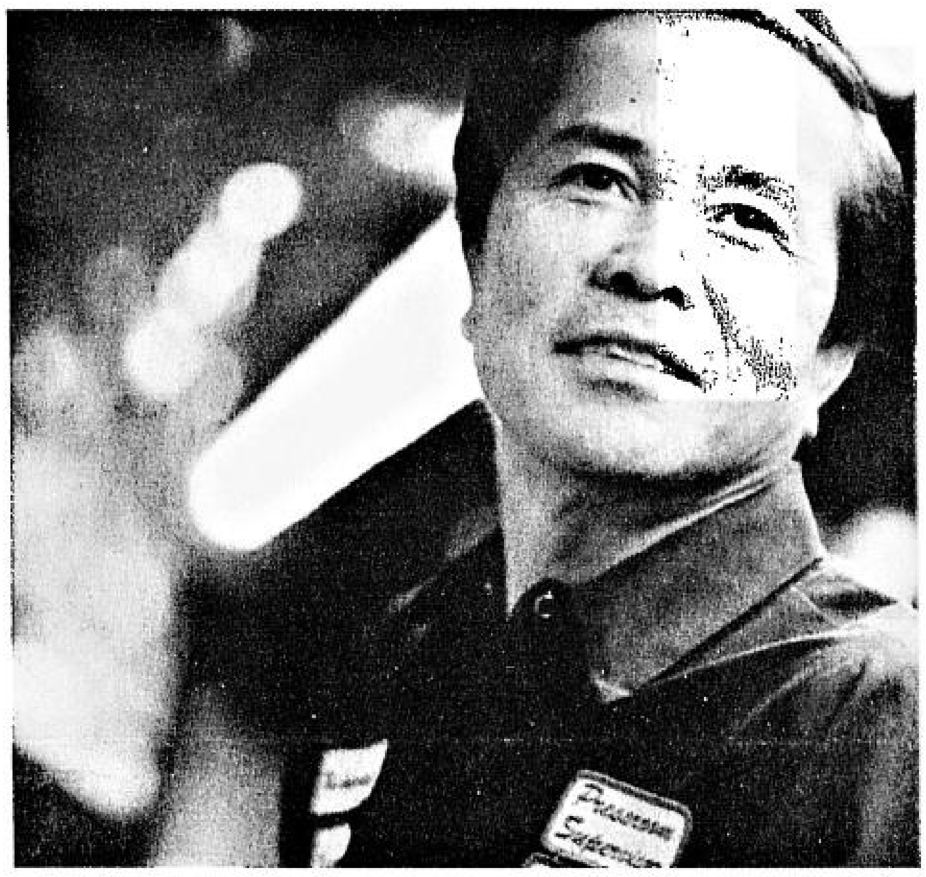
Available on brands under the SMART Network: Infinity, SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Addict Mobile, Talk 'N Text

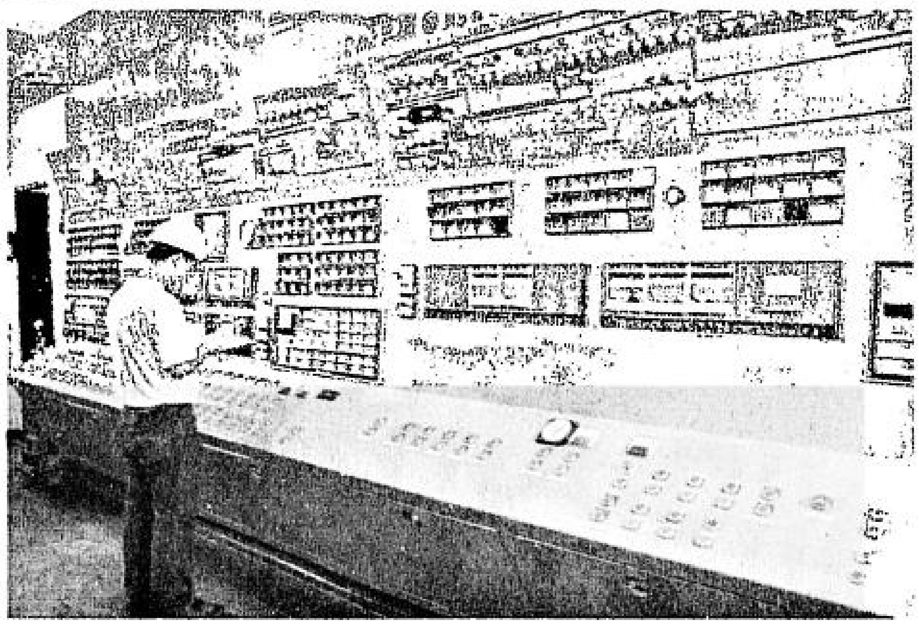
SMART
Simply amazing!



OFWs: Our Modern Day Heroes

Responding to the Cash Remittance Needs of OFWs & Their Families Back Home





There are about 8 million Overseas Filipino Workers in the world earning money to send back to the Philippines to reach the hands of the ones they love.

Over 23 million family members make use of this assistance from abroad. Imagine the number of Filipinos who will benefit from a remittance system that will give our modern day heroes value for their money, efficient service, peace of mind, and convenience; enabling OFWs to send remittances as often as they want and family members here in the country the ability to receive money through their cellular phones. This will be a faster, cheaper, and more dependable way of sending cash into the country.

Imagine Rene who is a seaman in Dublin, Ireland, entering the office of a remittance partner downtown. He is about to send money to his relatives in the Philippines via text. Because it will come out cheaper, he can now afford to send money regularly to help his aunt budget their monthly expenses. As he approaches the counter of the remittance partner abroad, he readies the cash that he wishes to remit. Handing it over to the person in charge he is informed that a service account will be created instantly for his aunt, Tita Aida, who will be the beneficiary of the money. His aunt will then have to activate the account from her mobile phone. The remittance partner will send the money through this new service with just a few clicks, also on their mobile phone. His Tita Aida will automatically receive an SMS message informing her that the remitted cash has been credited to her service account. She will be able to go to a nationwide network of accredited service centers to get the remitted cash. Rene, at first, will not believe it is this simple!

And because Tita Aida takes care of a house full of Rene's pamangkins and cousins, she will appreciate this new convenient service. With the option not to get all the cash sent to her service account, Tita Aida will be able to use the remaining funds to reload airtime in her mobile phone without having to leave the house and go to the sari-sari store across the street. She will also be able to also transfer funds to her loved ones with similar service accounts. She will be so happy to hear this. For sure, she will create one for her two sons studying in Manila and start sending them money by simply accessing the service menu from her mobile phone.

Plus, using the mobile service card, which she will be able to avail from all service centers nationwide, she can purchase goods and services in any MasterCard electronic establishment. No more need to bring big amounts of cash. Best of all, through this card, Tita Aida will be able to go to any Banco De Oro, Expressnet, and Megalink ATM to withdraw the extra money she might need. These added features will help her accomplish her day-to-day tasks and give her enough personal time with the kids.

Tita Aida will be boasting to all her friends of this new service. Sending money through it will be cheaper than any door-to-door delivery. And because it is not handcarried, Tita Aida will feel more confident that the cash is secure. She knows how hard Rene works just to help send his pamangkins and cousins to school. For her, people like Rene really deserve to be called our modern day heroes.

It will be this added convenience offered by a new remittance system that will provide efficiency, security and dependability when sending cash remittances from abroad. It will offer a means in which OFWs provide for their families here in the country and manage to keep in touch despite the distance.

It will make it easier to send money anytime from around the world to anywhere in the Philippines, bringing OFWs closer to their families and enabling remittance companies to provide better solutions for their needs, keeping them constantly connected to those who matter most in their lives.

To know more about this breakthrough service, simply turn to the next page…

*It's more than
innovative services..*

*It's about
keeping families together
whether here or abroad!*

ISA PANG BREAKTHROUGH MULA SA LEADER IN WIRE

INTRODUCING

SMA

PA

THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATION

Now, puwede k
ng cash sa celfo

Winner ka sa SMART!

LESS, LEADER IN INNOVATION

RT

DALA

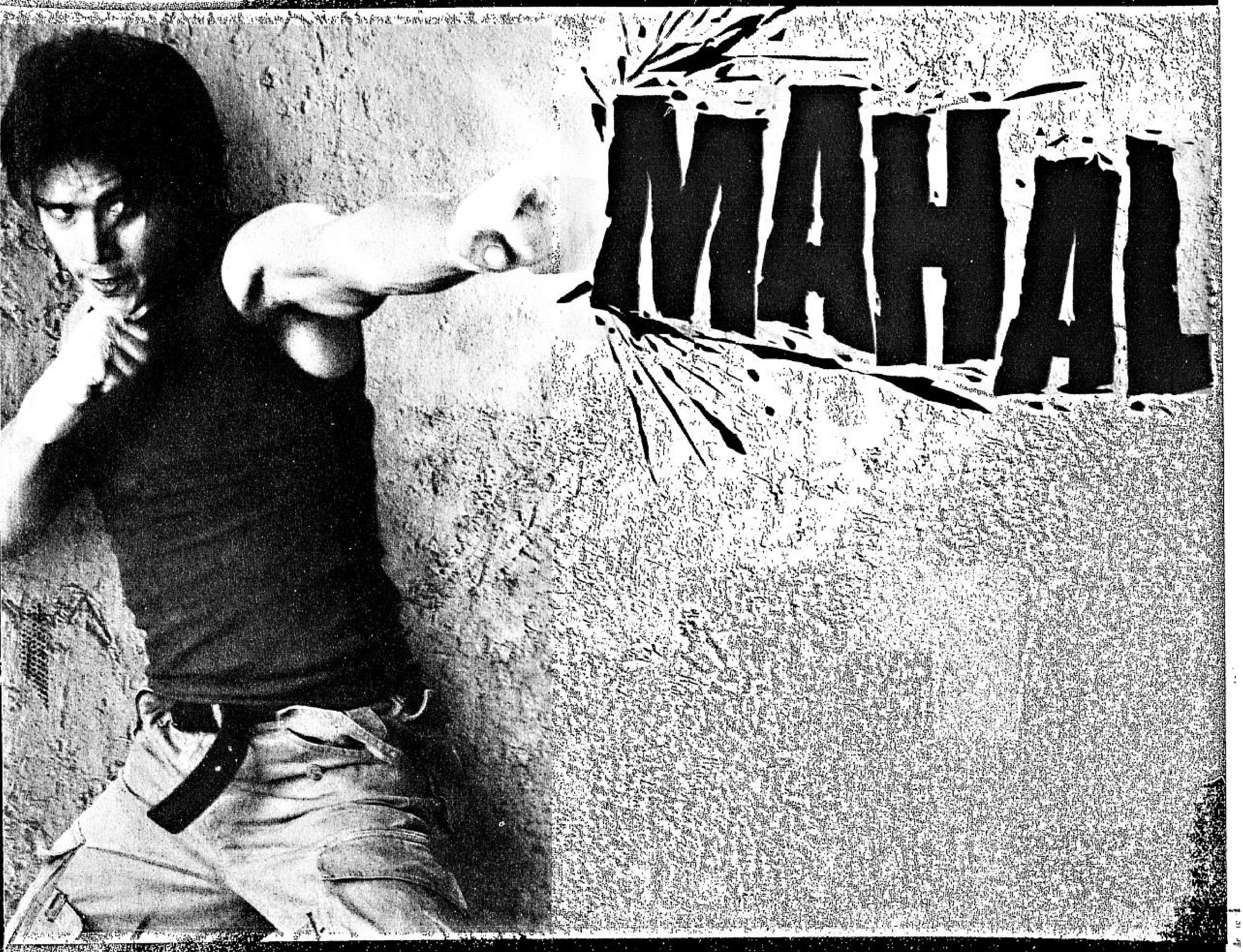
NAL CASH REMITTANCE THROUGH TE

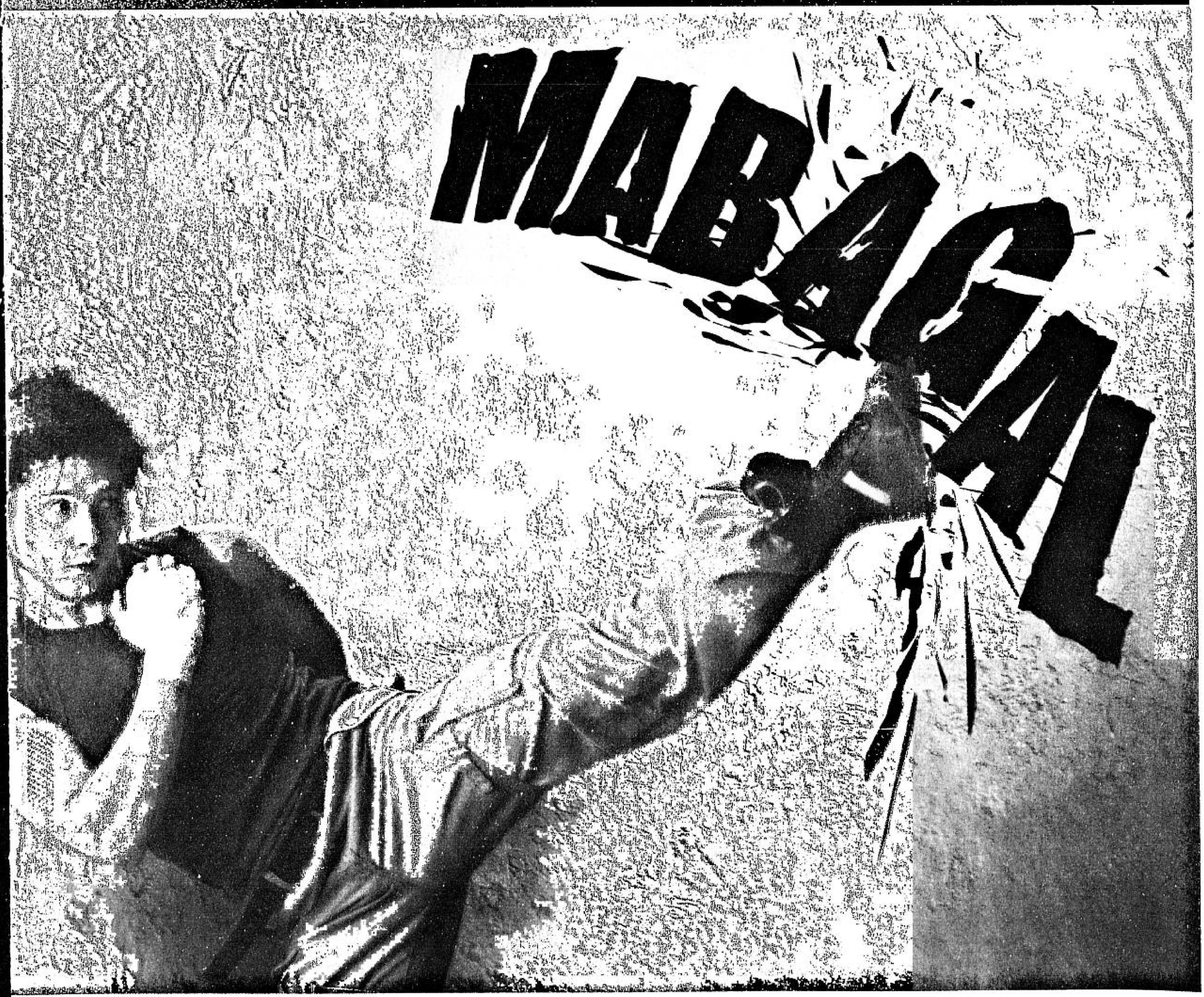
a nang makatanggap
ne! Sing bilis ng text!

It's more than innovative services...

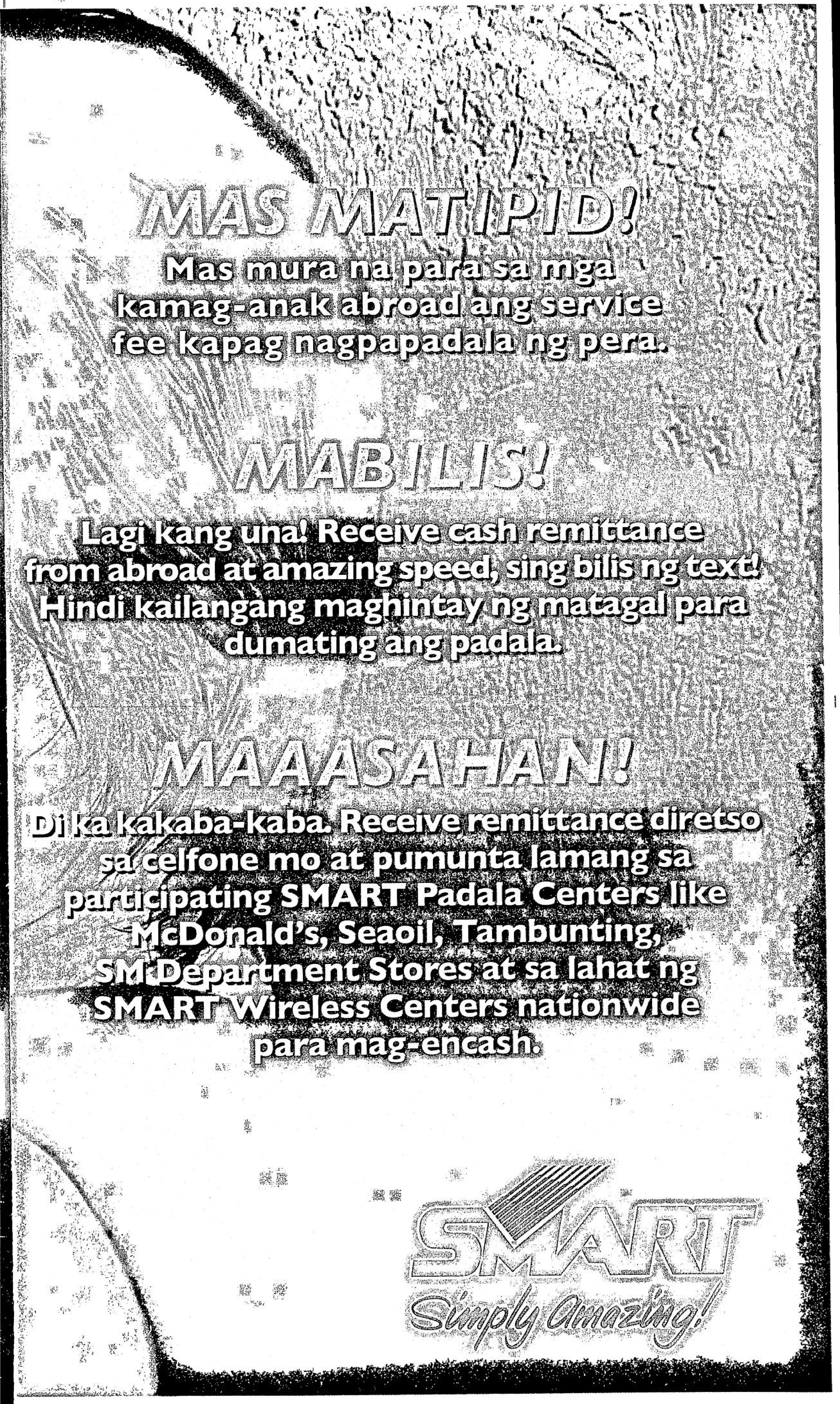
It's about keeping families together whether here or abroad!

Asar na ba kayo sa





XT
WINNER KA SA SMART!



MAS MATIPID!

Mas mura na para sa mga kamag-anak abroad ang service fee kapag nagpapadala ng pera.

MABILIS!

Lagi kang una! Receive cash remittance from abroad at amazing speed, sing bilis ng text! Hindi kailangang maghintay ng matagal para dumating ang padala.

MAAASAHAN!

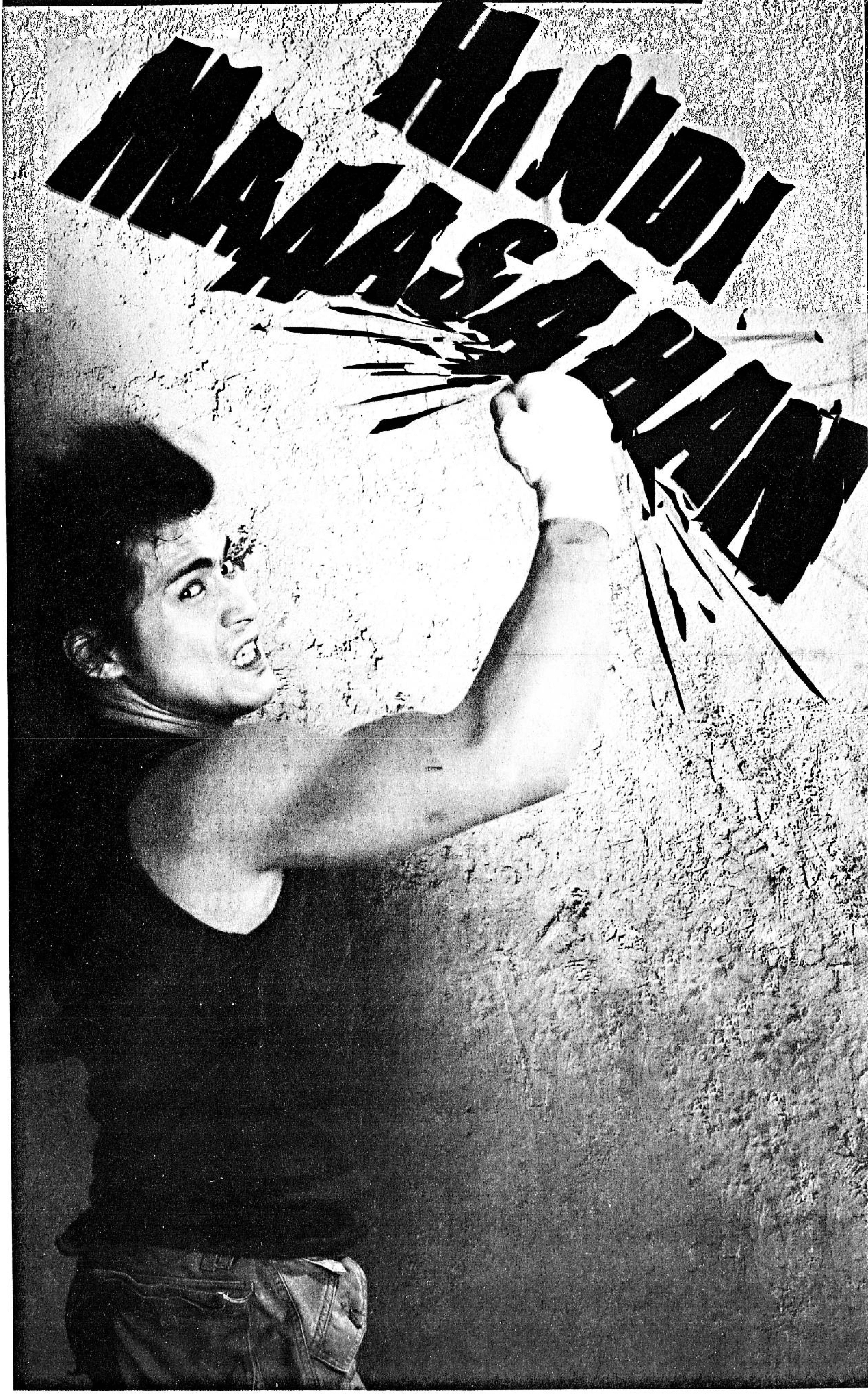
Di ka kakaba-kaba. Receive remittance diretso sa celfone mo at pumunta lamang sa participating SMART Padala Centers like McDonald's, Seaoil, Tambunting, SM Department Stores at sa lahat ng SMART Wireless Centers nationwide para mag-encash.

SMART

Simply Amazing!

serbisyong padala na...

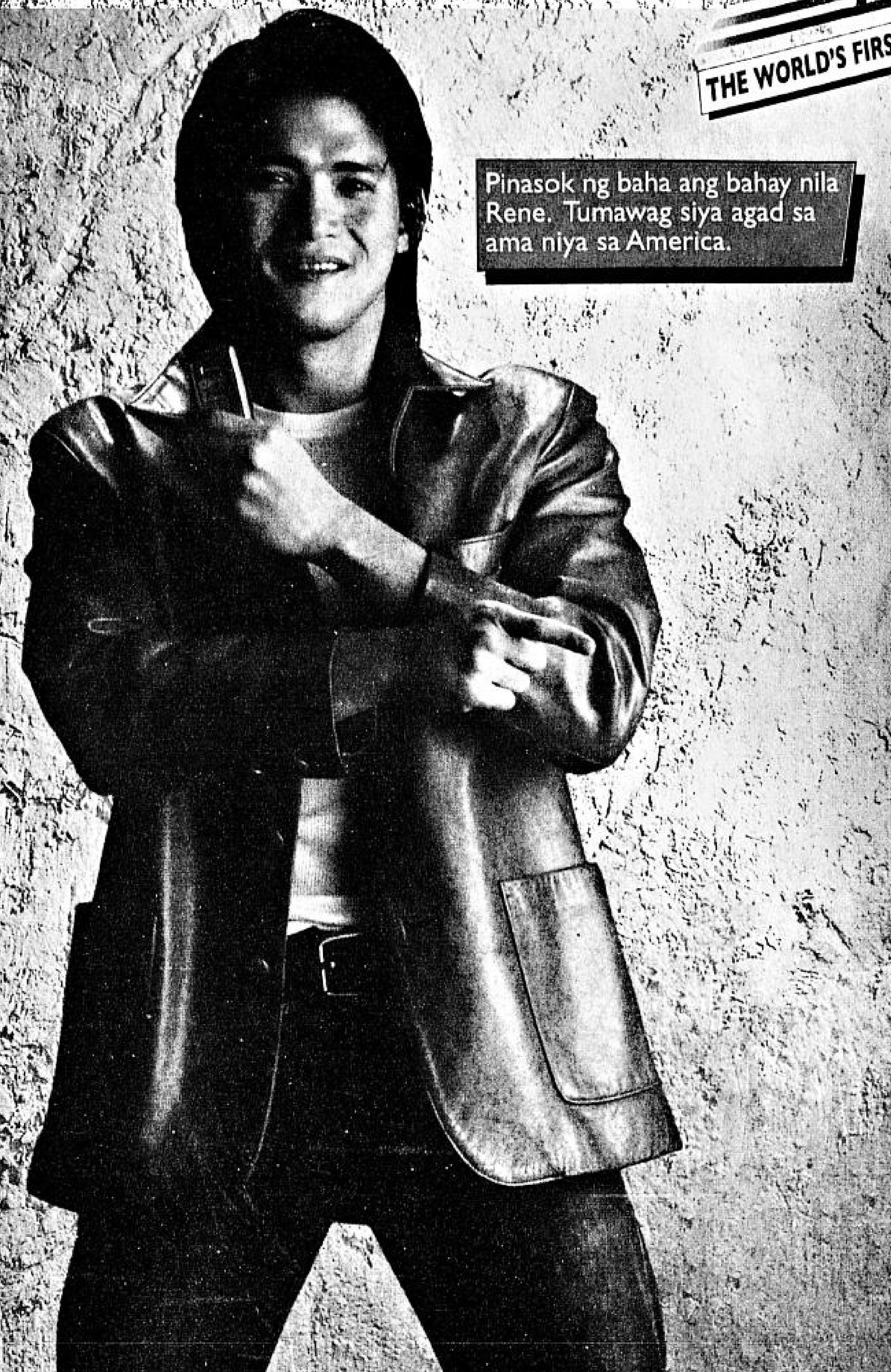
HINDI MAAASAHAN



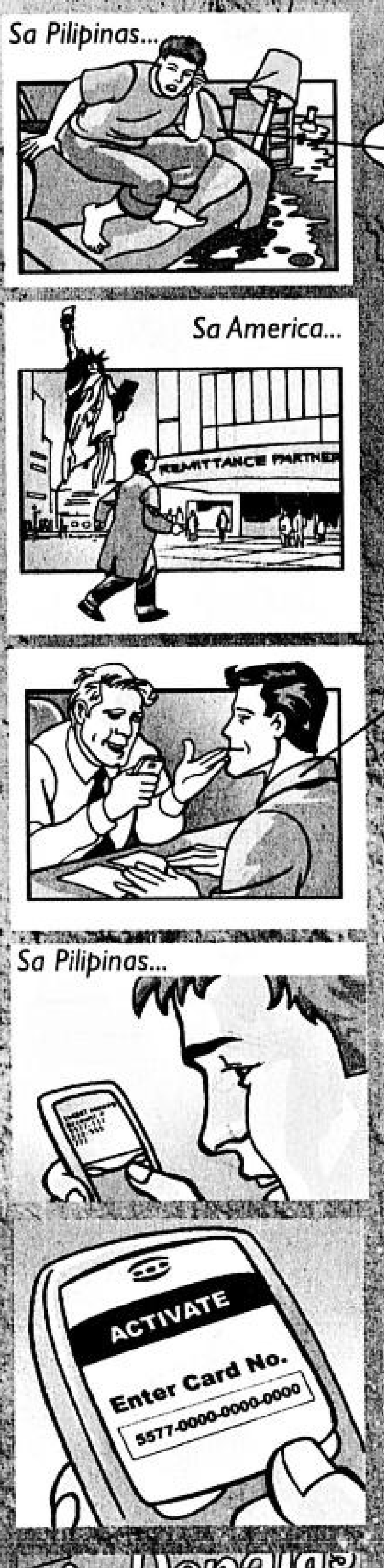
May dala akong magandang balita para sa milyun-milyong Pinoy na tumatanggap ng cash remittance mula sa abroad. Narito na ang bagong paraan... SMART PADALA. Saan ka man sa Pilipinas, matatanggap mo ang cash remittance mula sa abroad! Mula sa leader in wireless, leader in innovation... exclusive para sa mga Pilipinong tumatangkilik sa SMART.

SMART PADALA

THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL CASH REMITTANCE THROUGH TEXT



Pinasok ng baha ang bahay nila Rene. Tumawag siya agad sa ama niya sa America.


Sa Pilipinas...
Dad padala ka ng pera
Sa America...
REMITTANCE PARTNER
I need to send money to the Philippines through SMART Padala.
Sa Pilipinas...
ACTIVATE
Enter Card No.
5577-0000-0000-0000
McDonald's
Transfer Amount To
5577-1111-1111-1111
Dad, nakuha ko na ang padala n'yo. Salamat po!

Nagpaalam sandali sa ospital ang ama ni Rene na isang OFW nurse doon. Pumunta siya sa pinakamalapit na SMART Padala Remittance Partner.

Nag-assign ng SMART Money Account number ang Remittance Partner abroad kay Rene sa Pilipinas. Ilang clicks lang sa celfone, napadala na ang cash diretso sa celfone ni Rene.

Rene receives a text message, containing his SMART Money account number and the amount sent by his father.

Rene activates his SMART Money account on his celfone.

Pumunta siya sa pinakamalapit na SMART Padala Center.

Ang cash na natanggap ni Rene sa kanyang celfone ay nilipat niya sa SMART Money account ng Center.*

At binigay ng Center ang cash kay Rene.

Napaayos agad ni Rene ang bahay, at pati na rin ang sofa!

WINNER KA SA SMART!

SMART PADALA Remittance Partners Abroad:

BANCO DE ORO
Forex Hong Kong
DAX
CBN GRUPO
New York Bay NYBR Remittance

Participating SMART PADALA Centers in the Philippines:

love ko 'to
Tambunting SINCE 1906 PAWNSHOP
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
SEAOIL
SMART WIRELESS CENTER
ELEVEN *soon

Watch out for more SMART PADALA centers to come!

Backed by:

BDO UNIBANK BANCO DE ORO

CALL *7788 for more info!

SMART
Simply Amazing!

Call the SMART Padala Hotline at 845-7788 (landline), * 7788 on your celfone, or 1-800-10-845-77-88 (domestic toll-free) for more information.

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* Transfer fee costs P2.50, charged to subscriber's airtime. Service fee is P1 for every P100

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text Feedback: inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

HOW to get to Sesame Street /K2

MONDAY **ARTS** ● TUESDAY **FITNESS** ● WEDNESDAY **2BU** ● THURSDAY **FOOD** ● FRIDAY **HOME & FASHION** ● SUNDAY **SURPRISES**

IN THIS ISSUE

HEAVENLY dazzlers /E1

SEA Princess in sunshiny Cebu /G1

A MODERN e-mail romance /J1

Shopping Olympics in Hong Kong

A VIEW of Victoria Harbour and Hong Kong's finance and art centers from the Peak Tower

Text and photos by Rowena C. Burgos

SHOPPING in Hong Kong is an electric experience. Whether you're in the comfort of an air-conditioned shopping mall, or checking factory outlets, or exploring alleys and backstreets, you will feel the city's zest and stamina.

And shopaholic or not, you're unlikely to leave Hong Kong without something of it. Indeed, the place does a roaring trade in bargain-priced luggage simply because many travelers run out of space in their suitcases.

"There are good reasons for (the shopping trade). The first is Hong Kong's status as a free port, where everything other than alcohol, tobacco, perfumes, cosmetics, cars and some petroleum products comes in without import duty," says tour guide May Shih.

The second, Shih adds, is that Hong Kong has access to a skilled and inexpensive labor force just across the border in China. Goods made on either side of the border are considerably cheaper in Hong Kong before they will reach the shelves of shops around the world.

Shih says the third factor is the highly competitive nature of the retail business—the result of the free trade policy, which encourages every shop to try to undercut its neighbor. To this end, many stores stay open until 11 p.m. or 12 mn. Shops also hum on Sundays and on all holidays apart from the Chinese New Year, when everything closes for at least three days.

Shopper of the year

To showcase Hong Kong's shopping strengths such as value for money, variety of choices, quality assurance and service excellence, the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) organized the Shopper of the Year in 2002. It

SHOPPING/ E2

SMART Buddy Pre-paid
IDD 40¢ a minute
It takes only 40¢ a minute
to thank your mommy in Canada
for your $3.00 earrings
for your $12.00 lipstick
for your $15.00 blouse
for your $5.00 a day frap.

Kaya si mommy naman ang pasayahin mo. Smart Buddy IDD 40¢ a minute.

It's not just about making an IDD call.
It's about building family values.

Dial + • Country Code • Area Code • Party's Number
Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline [illegible]
In U.S. Currency. Applicable to over 200 destinations worldwide, including INMARSAT.

SMART Simply Amazing!

Your Daily Bread.

GOLDILOCKS FRESH BAKE Loaf Breads, Pandesal, and Dinner Rolls are vitamin A fortified – making FRESH BAKE the first and only bread with the D.O.H. Sangkap Pinoy Seal. Now available in supermarkets, warehouse clubs and convenience stores in Metro Manila and provincial Luzon.

Goldilocks Fresh Bake

Classic Pandesal · Wheat Loaf · Tasty White Loaf · Dinner Roll

Shoppir Olymp in Hong Ko

The HK Shopping Festiva
the world's top shop
for frenzied bargain-hu
in the territory

Hong Kong
港購物通

WINNERS WITH TWO JUDGES. Keith Chan, senior product manager, Samsung Electronics HK Co. Ltd.; Sutatip Wongwikkit and Suchitar Wongviggit (Thailand); Tseng Hsiem Tzu (Taipei); Clara Chong, HKTB executive director; Liu Han Ya (Taipei); Dai Xiao Feng and Yu Dan (China); Kathleen Olive and Glen Emil Mergen (Canada); Takako Mizuta and Katsumi Konishi (Japan)

From page E1

is part of the annual Hong Kong Shopping Festival, ongoing until Aug. 31.

The Shopper of the Year featured 15 teams from the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, United Kingdom, United States, India, Japan, Italy, Australia, Canada, Korea, China, Singapore and Taipei.

The initial rounds of the contest were conducted by HKTB during the past two months through its worldwide offices together with shopping malls, department stores, websites, newspapers, magazines and radio and TV stations. Contest formats included online games, quizzes, essay and shopping tilts. The winners from each country were then invited to Hong Kong with a partner to take part in the finals.

The Philippines was represented by siblings Ria Buenafe, 26, a self-employed video editor, and Archie Buenafe, 22, a student.

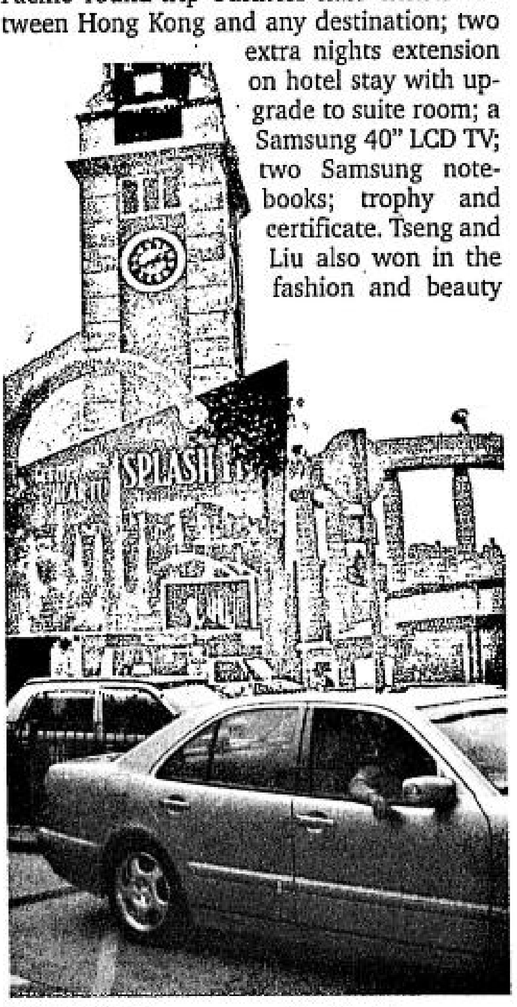
Each team of two was given HK$3,000 to purchase one item from each of the festival's four major shopping themes: fashion and beauty, jewelry and watches, consumer electronics and Chinese traditions. They were required to shop from 6-10 p.m. on July 20 at Quality Tourism Services scheme merchant outlets and/or participating merchants in the 2004 Hong Kong Shopping Festival displaying the designated decal.

Most of the contestants went to Yue Hwa Chinese Products, Just Gold, Tai Lin Radio Service Ltd., Eikowada Xplorer World Adventure, Sasa Cosmetics, DFS Galleria Duty Free Shoppers, Fortress, Foochow Lacquer Co., Broadway Photo Supply Ltd., Chow Tai Fook, Chinese Arts and Crafts, The Beauty Group, Lane Crawford and Sogo Hong Kong.

Adding to the excitement, the contestants were required to photograph a "must-see" attraction of Hong Kong.

The participants were judged according to adherence to contest regulations (30 percent), creativity (35 percent) and value for money (35 percent).

The grand prize was bagged by Tseng Hsiem Tzu, a student, and Liu Han Ya, program host, from Taipei. They won two Cathay Pacific round-trip business-class tickets between Hong Kong and any destination; two extra nights extension on hotel stay with upgrade to suite room; a Samsung 40" LCD TV; two Samsung notebooks; trophy and certificate. Tseng and Liu also won in the fashion and beauty



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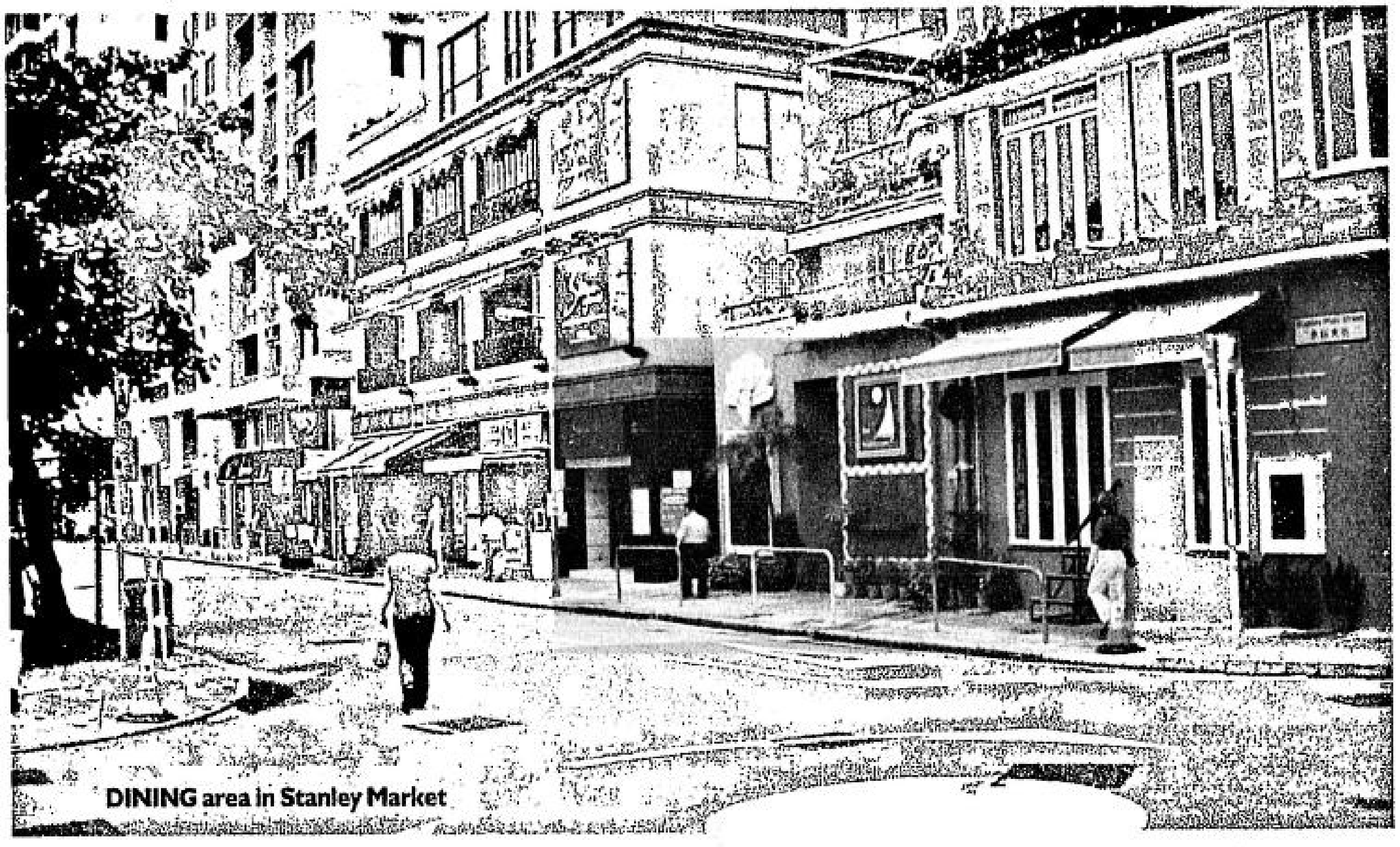

DINING area in Stanley Market

ARCHIE and Ria Buenafe, Philippine representatives to HK's Shopper of the Year promo

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MICHELLE Yeoh? Yes, in wax at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum

category.

Other winners were Takako Mizuta and Katsumi Konishi (Japan), both office employees, for consumer electronics; Kathleen Olive Mergen, nurse, and Glen Emil Mergen (Canada), upholstery worker, for Chinese traditions; Dai Xiao Feng, professor, and Yu Dan (China), office employee, for jewelry and watches. They all received Hitachi DVD cams, trophies and certificates.

The Most Creative Photo award was given to Suchitar Wongviggit, internal auditor, and Sutatip Wongwikkit (Thailand), housewife. They also won a Hitachi DVD cam, trophy and certificate. Their photo was the Aqua Fantasia show near the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

"As this year's contest was held in the evening, participants and their accompanying media also had the chance to experience the vibrancy and excitement of night-time shopping, dining and entertainment in Hong Kong, which together create a 'total experience' for visitors of all ages and interests, extending far beyond shopping," said Clara Chong, HKTB executive director.

Chong added that the contest had been extended from 10-15 markets worldwide, demonstrating the wide international recognition the Shopping Festival now enjoys. In 2002, the United States took the top prize.

More than 6,500 retail and dining outlets citywide are participating in the shopping festival. In the first 23 days since it began on June 26, over 1.3 million visitors had come to Hong Kong from around the world, which is well on track for the 3.7 million expected during the full duration of the festival.

The Hong Kong tour was sponsored by the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

BRUCE LEE at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum

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CIRCULAR pendants inspired by heavenly bodies

Bolt of dazzlers

In its Astrale line, Bulgari shifts from heap and heft to wispy and ethereal

STRAPS made of stingray skin

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

DRAWING inspiration from heavenly bodies, Bulgari has ditched chunky colored stones for tiny white diamonds set in white and yellow gold.

In a recent two-day launch at the Makati Shangri-La, members of Manila's jeweled set feasted their eyes on the Italian company's latest collection, "Astrale." The event comes in the heels of Bulgari's worldwide launch, which kicked off earlier this year at the Pavlovsk Palace in St. Petersburg.

Astrale is a total departure from last year's Allegra line, which consisted of semiprecious stones combined with pearls and diamonds. Gone now are the chunky and whimsical elements that dominated the Optical and Tondo collections.

In lieu of such eye candies are elegantly clean pavé diamonds ranging from .5 to one carat, set mostly in concentric loops made of pure gold. Bigger rocks ranging from five to 17 carats provide certain pieces with the *de rigueur* exclamation point. Owing to dangling elements that follow either a straight or triangular pattern, a subgroup has been dubbed as Fireworks.

Astrale's stones may not be as big as those found in previous collections, says Mario Katigbak, Bulgari's country manager in the Philippines, but the collection has several features that make it worthy to be part of Bulgari's growing list of pricey options.

"Bulgari has always been strong in design and construction," he says. "It's not just a matter of design, but how its jewelers put the pieces together. They always have the wearer's movements and comfort in mind."

Take, for instance, Astrale's circular ring that comes either with or without diamonds. Rather than come in a single piece, the wide circular element on top is attached to the ring with a pair of loops to allow it to "move" with the wearer's finger.

"It would have been easier and cheaper for Bulgari to do it the usual way," Katigbak explains, "but that would have surely hurt the poor wearer's finger."

He also vouches for the way the series of links and necklaces fall nicely around the neck and on the chest. Indeed, despite Bessie Badilla's attempts to ham it up, several of her pendants stayed with their faces up and pressed close to her chest.

The former model, together with Olen Lim, Patty Betita and Sarah Jane Paez, was among the senior mannequins who shared the stage with younger colleagues such as Rissa Samson, Isabel Roces, Valerie de los Santos, Rachel Soriano, Bianca Valerio and Bubbles Paraiso.

Not predictable

By adding several smaller and identical elements with the main pendant, Bulgari's designers added volume and kept the piece from becoming predictable. Such "body," said Katigbak, is also evident in the Fireworks series.

Since each element that makes up, say, a bracelet, is molded and connected to the next element, the piece manages to look more voluminous than it actually is. Surprisingly, the

BOLT/ F2

NECKLACES from the Fireworks line

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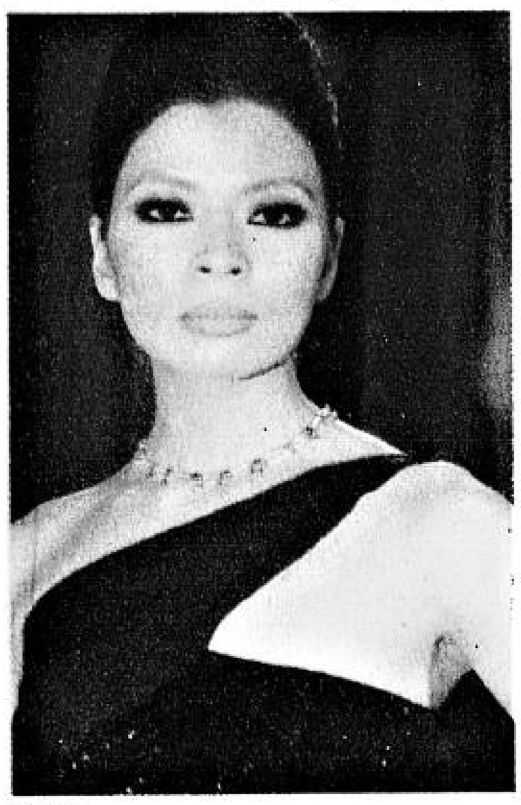
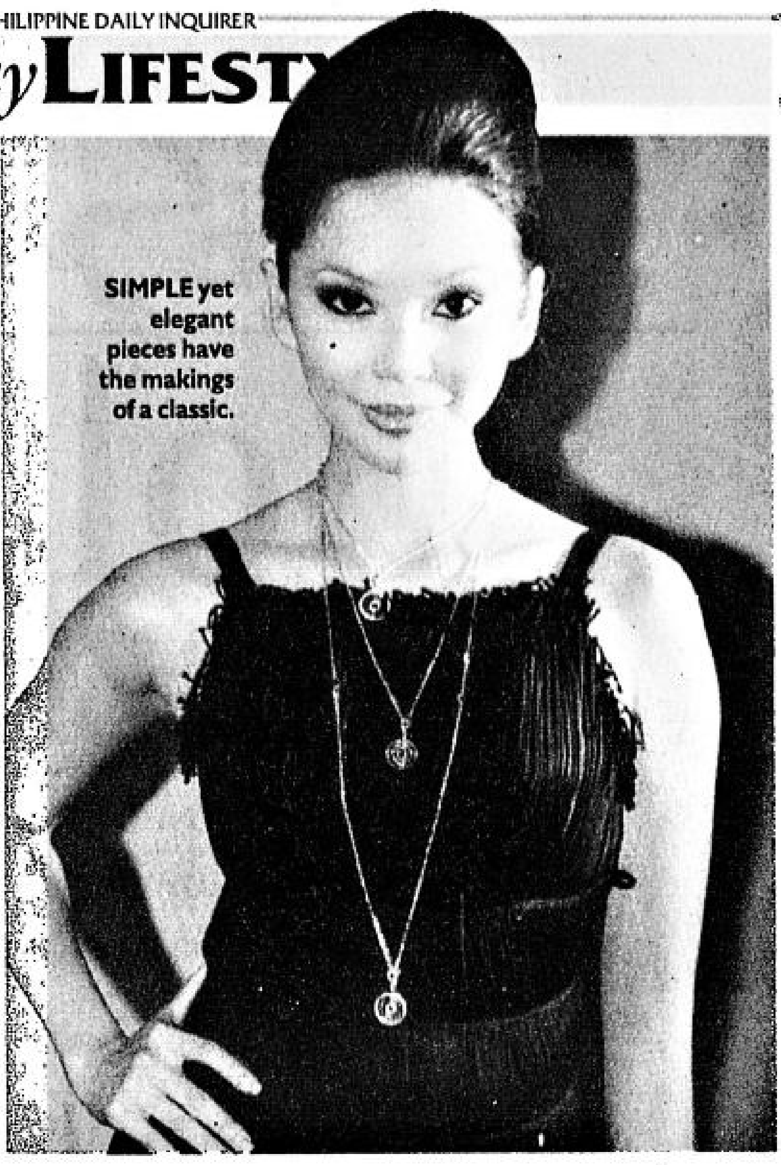


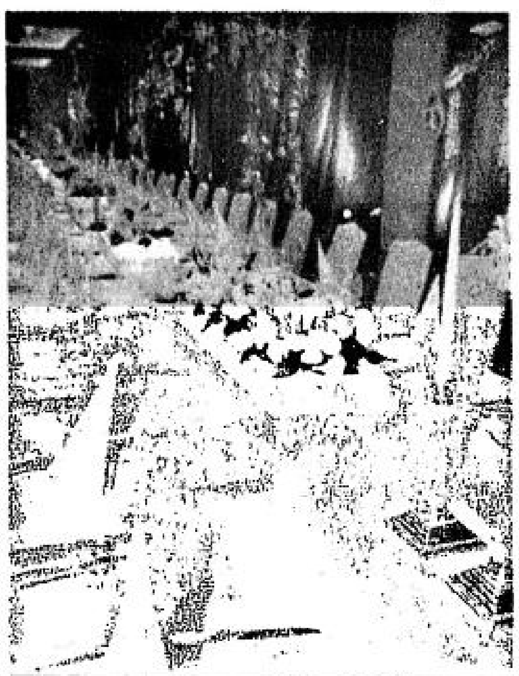
EACH element is joined together for a more voluminous look.

LAYERED for effect

PENDANTS move with the wearer yet remain face up and pressed to the chest.



SIMPLE yet elegant pieces have the makings of a classic.



THE BULGARI ballroom at the Makati Shangri-La features a long dinner table. Zenas Pineda of Rustan's Flower Shop designed the décor.

BULGARI country GM Mario Katigbak

Bolt of dazzlers

IN keeping with Bulgari's thrust to appeal to both young and mature women, young and senior models share the stage.

From page F1

bracelet manages to move with its wearer despite the "tension" that results from such a method.

"Others would probably just use links to come up with a similar piece," he adds. "Aside from being flimsy, links don't offer that much volume."

Bulgari's attempts to come up with ergonomically designed luxury items extend to its earrings. Each pair comes with a left and right piece. In short, no piece is interchangeable.

"Our ears aren't straight," says Katigbak. "To show off each piece properly, our earrings work around the earlobes. Designers based the position of each earring on an estimated contour."

And what about the diamonds? Aside from their even sparkle, he adds, they're set in such a way that they won't endanger the owner both physically and, well, mentally. Certain pieces are prone to lose their stones as well as scratch their owner's neck and fingers, says Katigbak.

Jewelry aficionados should know. Some diamonds, for instance, are set in between four "teeth" that act as hooks. There's a big possibility of a stone getting lost once one of these hooks is damaged or misaligned. Not likely with Bulgari, as its stones are embedded securely on the metal base.

Some jewelers, in their attempt to cut corners, also overlook or totally ignore a ring or pendant's reverse side. Such negligence, which Katigbak says is also unheard of at Bulgari, has resulted in not a few cut fingers and grazed necks.

By the way, in lieu of metal links, colored straps made of leather and stingray skin hold certain "one-of-a-kind" dazzlers in the Astrale line together. But before environmentalists raise a ruckus, the straps are said to come from farmed stingrays.

"They're so identifiable," says Katigbak of the set. "So as to make each piece unique, we've decided to limit its sale to one piece per client."

And if it's any assurance to Bulgari fans, these features also make the job harder and more expensive for would-be copycats, says Katigbak. How come? If they're going to ape every single element found in Bulgari, the cost of production naturally rises.

If and when that happens, why settle for an expensive piece of imitation when you can get the original Bulgari at nearly the same price?

CATHERINE Tantoco-Huang, Babette Aquino-Benoit and Crickette Yu-Tantoco

ETHEL Timbol, Joanne Rae Ramirez and Thelma San Juan relaxing on Minotti's fine furniture

SHARON Tan, Beth Pangan, Victor Silvino and Ireen Catane

DESI Laperal, Pinky Consunji-Laperal and Nympha Yatco

CHRISTINE Villanueva, Irene Francisco and Paolo Martel

BEN Chan and Miguel Pastor

BULGARI always has its share of fans.

A BULGARI necklace looks good at whatever angle.

STILL a girl's best friend

JEWELRY like this knows no age.

RICKY and Beng Dee

ALBERT and Liezl Martinez

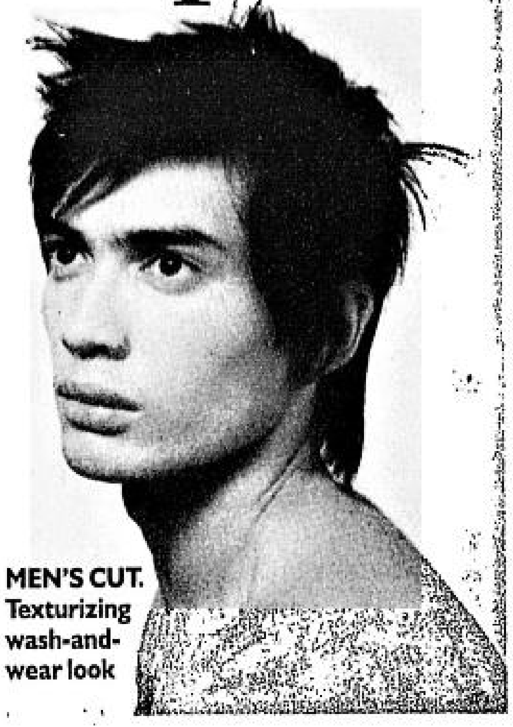
Stylist opens own shop

ANGELO Justin cutting his model's hair for Toni and Guy School of Hairdressing in London last year

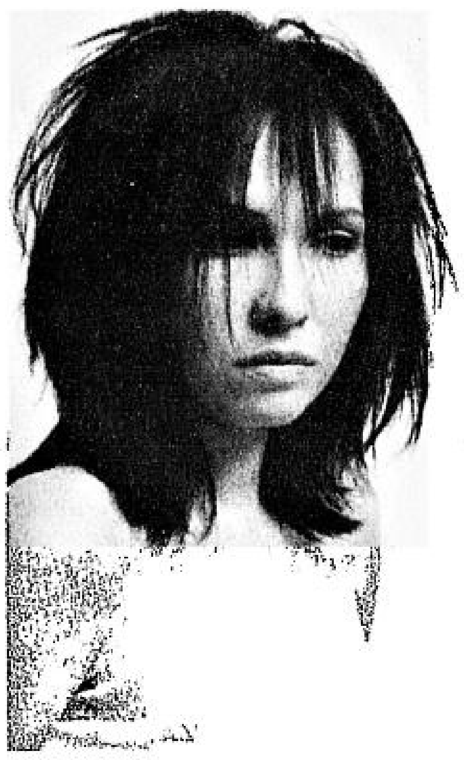
ANGELO Justin, who returned recently from his annual month-long, hands-on refresher course at the Toni and Guy School of Hairdressing in London, has opened his own shop at Goldcrest in Glorietta, Makati.

The hairdresser-stylist, makeup artist and haircut specialist has recruited expert assistants to help him.

Justin will give beauty tips for hair, face and the use of cosmetics.



MEN'S CUT. Texturizing wash-and-wear look



JUSTIN'S mix chick cut with texturizing black color

Preparing for the exam

WITH or without a review center, the student can take an exam, but much will depend on himself and his preparation. Malu Rule, who supervises the college entrance programs of a review center in Greenhills, has several tips for test-takers.

Months before the exam...

1. Inquire about the coverage of the exam and review the subjects covered.

2. Look for a review center that offers patterned reviews. This means that the review program is designed specifically for the admissions test of a certain school. This is important because every school gives a different type of exam in terms of coverage, level of difficulty and format.

3. Remember that it is not how long you review that counts, but that you review the right thing.

4. Read. Certain bits of information will be retained in your memory. These may come in handy during the exam.

5. Visit the venue of the examination. Familiarize yourself with the place so you will feel more relaxed during the examination. Remember to look for the washroom nearest to the room assigned to you.

6. Seek the emotional support of friends or relatives.

7. Pray. It really works!

The night before the exam...

1. Prepare your bag. It must contain at least six sharpened pencils with erasers, a pen, a sharpener, a small ruler, your test permit, ID, a jacket, a hand fan and the right kind of snacks and drinks, if allowed.

2. Prepare an easy-to-read wristwatch (without a calculator function since such is disallowed in a test). Use this to budget your time when taking the test.

3. Prepare your clothes and shoes. Choose your most comfortable outfit. Do not wear anything new.

4. Do not eat anything that you are allergic to or anything that can give you indigestion.

5. Do not sleep too late or too early.

6. Do not study 24 hours before the exam except to glance occasionally at your notes. You have to psyche yourself up; prepare your physical and mental self. Relax.

On the day of the exam...

1. Check if you have everything you need for the exam.

2. Be at the venue at least 30 minutes before the exam. This will allow you to relax so that you don't feel tense and anxious during the exam.

3. Just before the exam starts, go to the washroom so that you need not go there while the exam is in progress.

4. Make yourself comfortable. Sit properly and relax.

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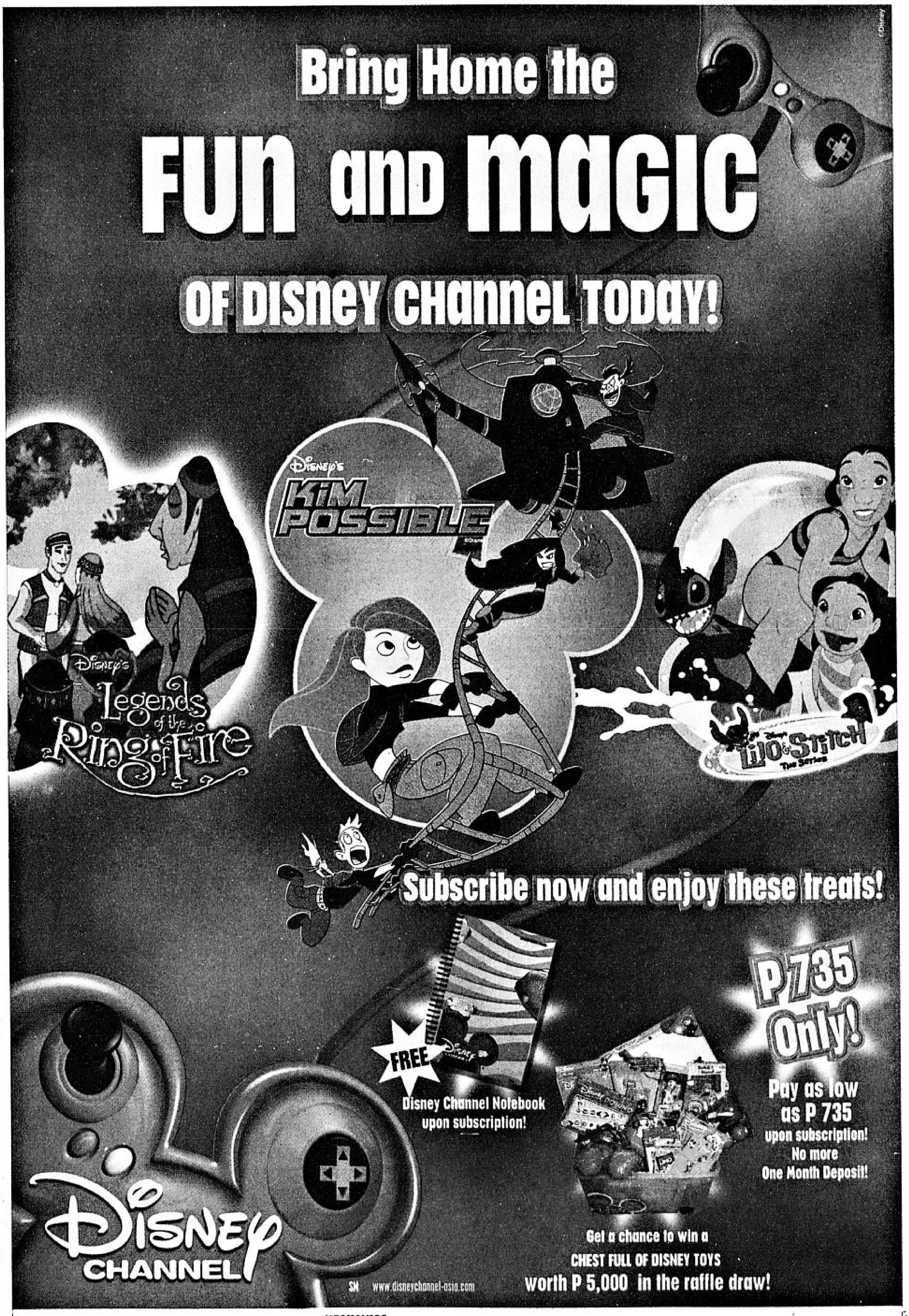

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4 The last day of redemption for the Disney notebooks is until 60 days from end of promo period.
5) Only accounts disconnected prior to Dec. 1, 2003 are allowed to avail of this promo.
6) Plus, Every application filed and approved within the promo period will be assigned a computer-generated raffle entry. Only one (1) entry will be assigned to each account.
7) The raffle computer generated draw will be held on September 6, 2004, 3pm at the Marketing Services Dept. of SkyCable and Home Cable, Ground Floor, Benpres Bldg., Ortigas Center, Pasig City.
8) Disney toys valued at P5,000 will be raffled off to five (5) lucky winners.
9) All prizes are non-transferable and non-convertible to cash.
10) Subscribers can only win once in the raffle program during the promo period.
11) Winners will be notified via registered mail. List of winners will be posted at participating SkyCable Branches.
12) Winners may claim their prizes at the Marketing Services Dept. of SkyCable and Home Cable, Ground Floor Benpres Bldg., Ortigas Center, Pasig City.
13) All employees of SkyCable and Home Cable, associated affiliates and its advertising agencies, including relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity, are disqualified from joining the raffle draw.
14) Redemption period shall be within 60 days from receipt of official notice. Unclaimed prizes within this period will be forfeited, with prior DTI approval.
15) The validity, terms and conditions of the prizes are specified by the supplier / sponsor.

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EJ9	Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word
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EJ11	Can You Feel The Love Tonight
EJ12	This Train Don't Stop Here Anymore

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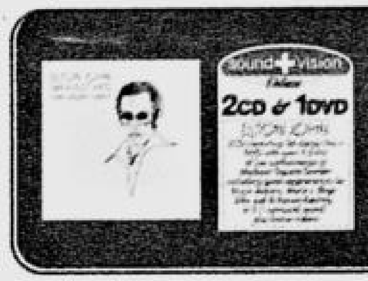

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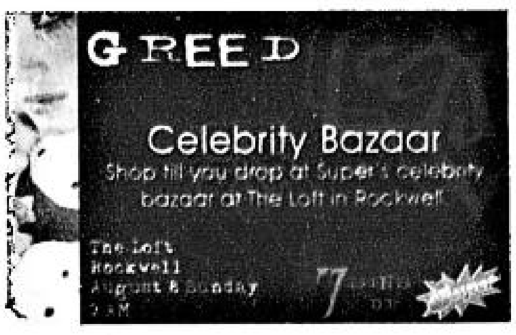
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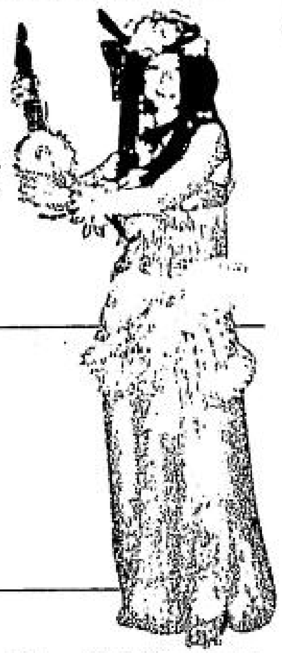
Being my sunshiny self in Cebu

Expats abound in Cebu. I shall advise my single girlfriends to move there and check out the foreigners to expand their dating scene

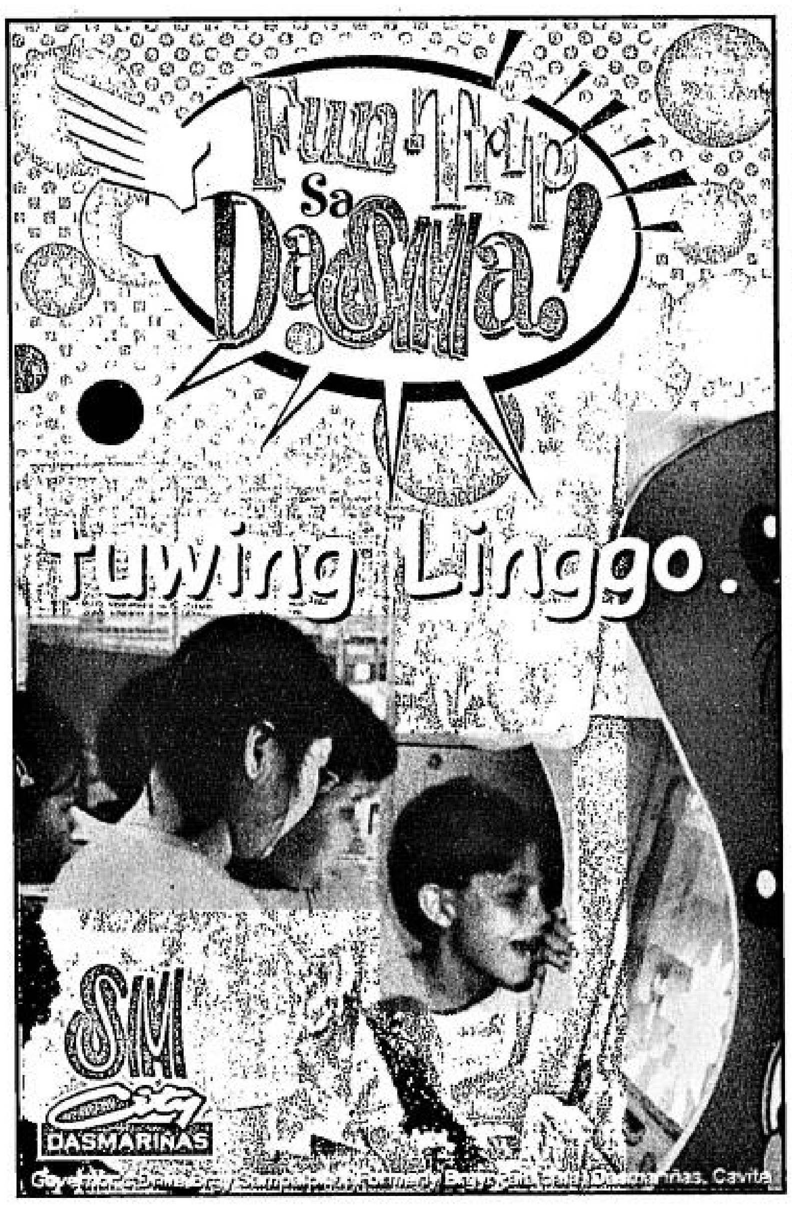


TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

LET the sunshine in! That upbeat positive mood is what I get whenever I am in Cebu. Everything is very encouraging there in contrast to the pessimistic clouds that seem to prevail over the rest of the country. Over the last two months, I've spent three weekends in Cebu.

BEING/ G2



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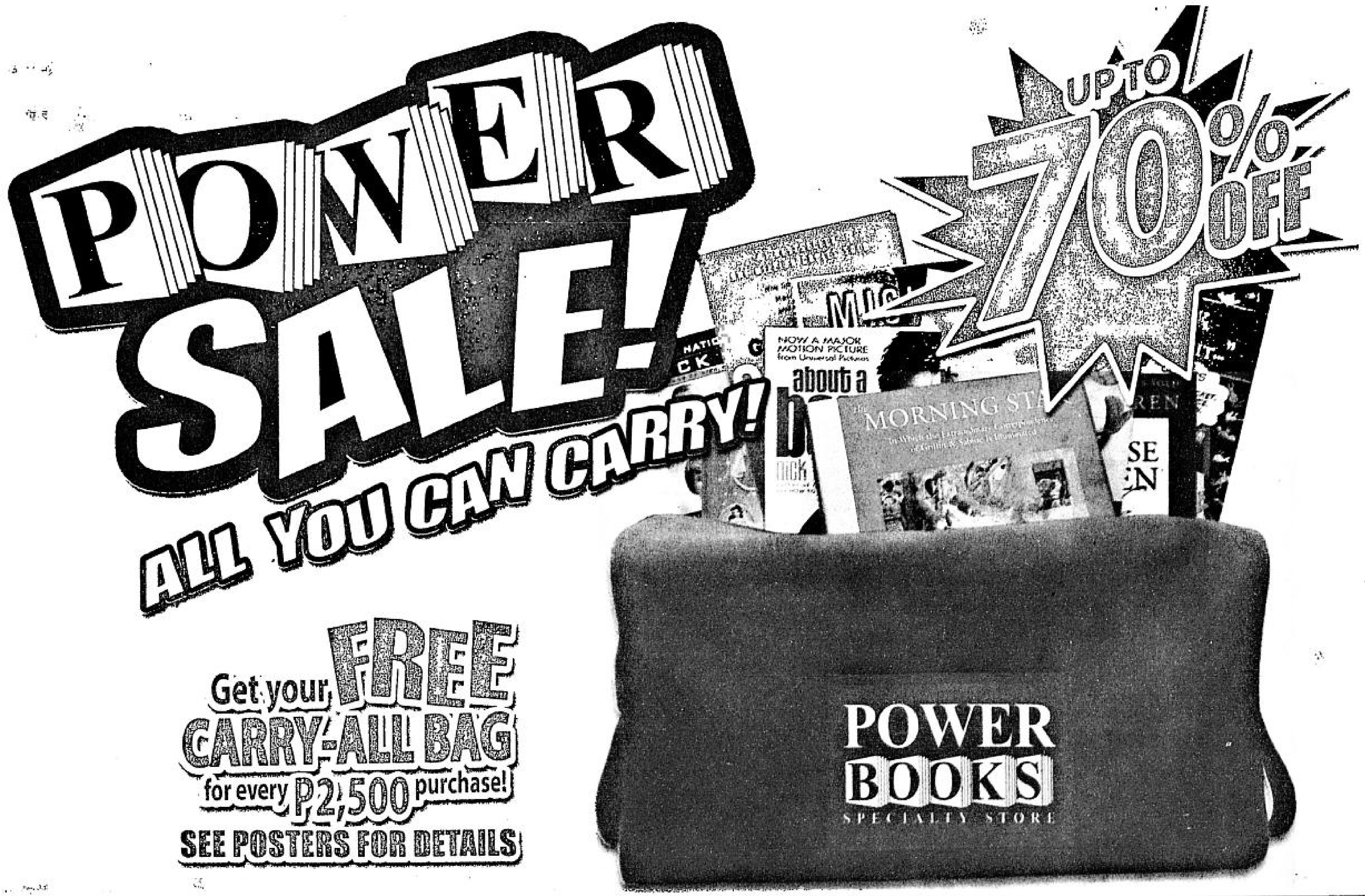

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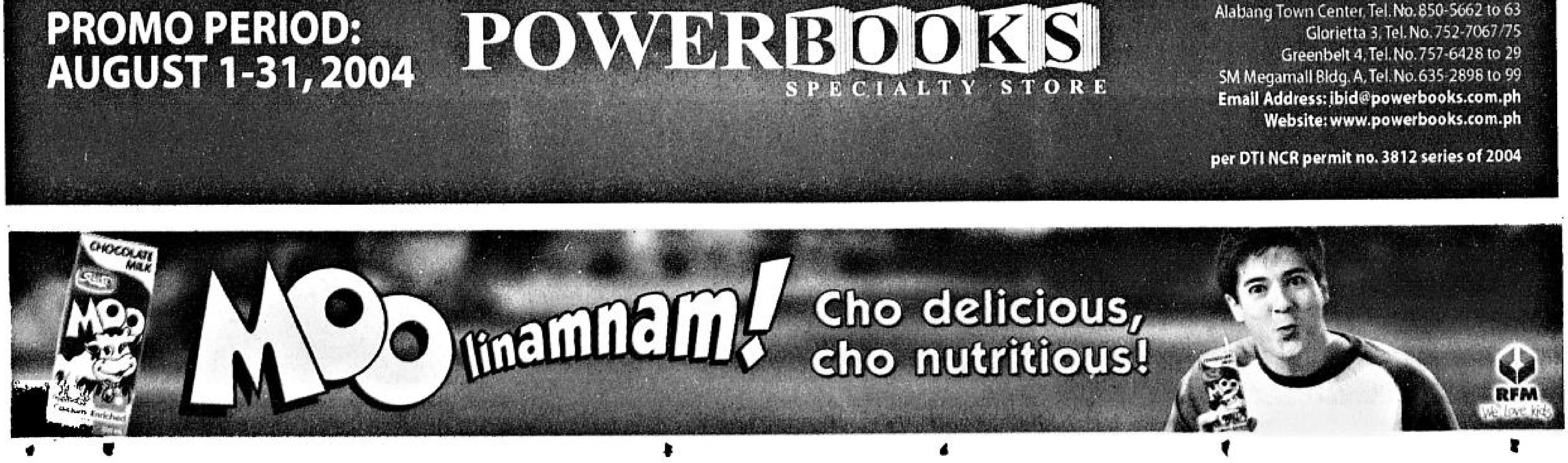

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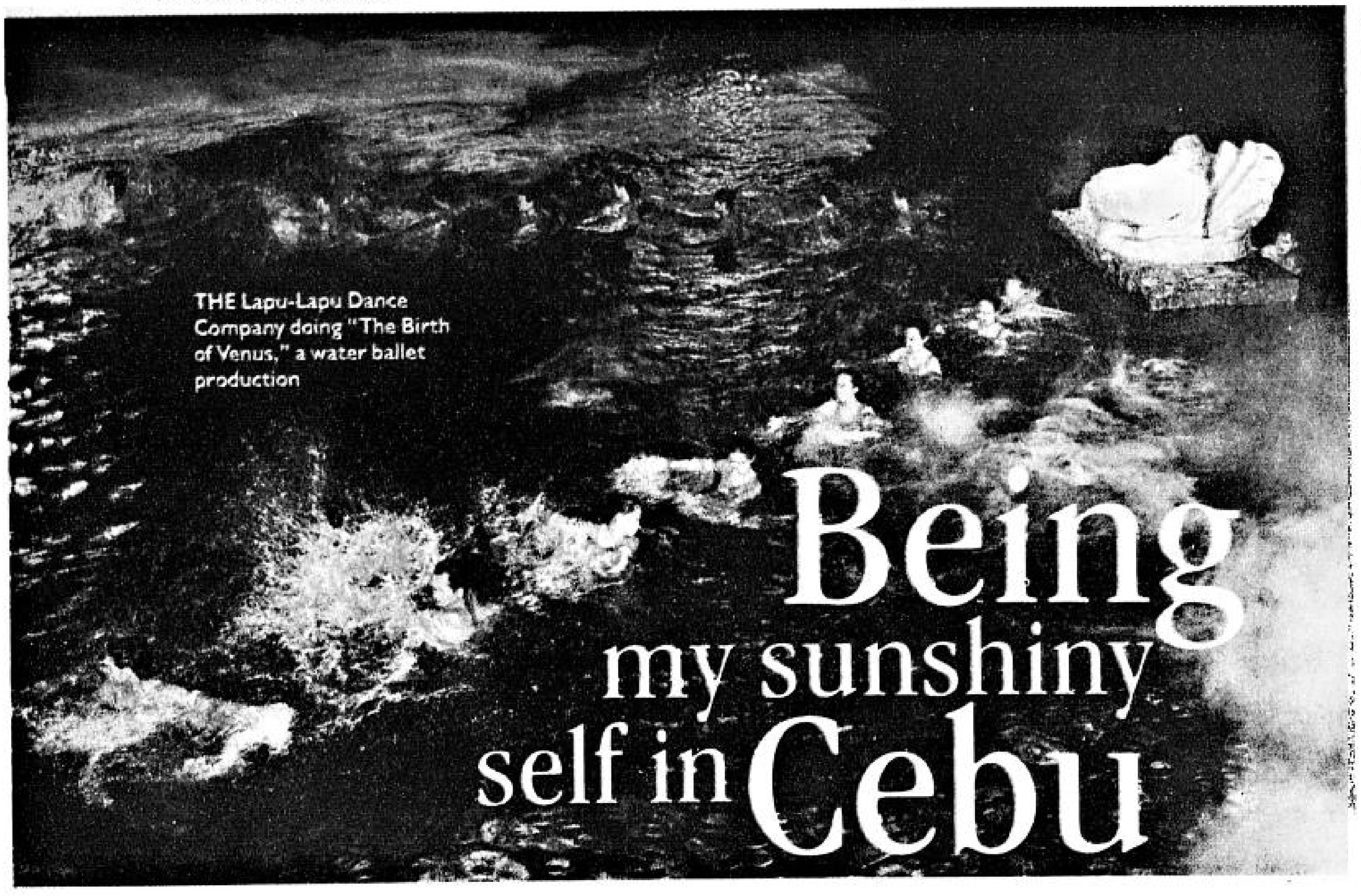
Being my sunshiny self in Cebu


THE Lapu-Lapu Dance Company doing "The Birth of Venus," a water ballet production

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GLOBAL Pasko of Shopwise. Catherine Tantoco, Sea Princess, Anton Mendoza and Rachy Cuna

From page G1

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WHEEEE! Parasailing at Mactan

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SEN. Pia Cayetano and her brother, director Lino

CASUAL chic dining at Cowrie Cove

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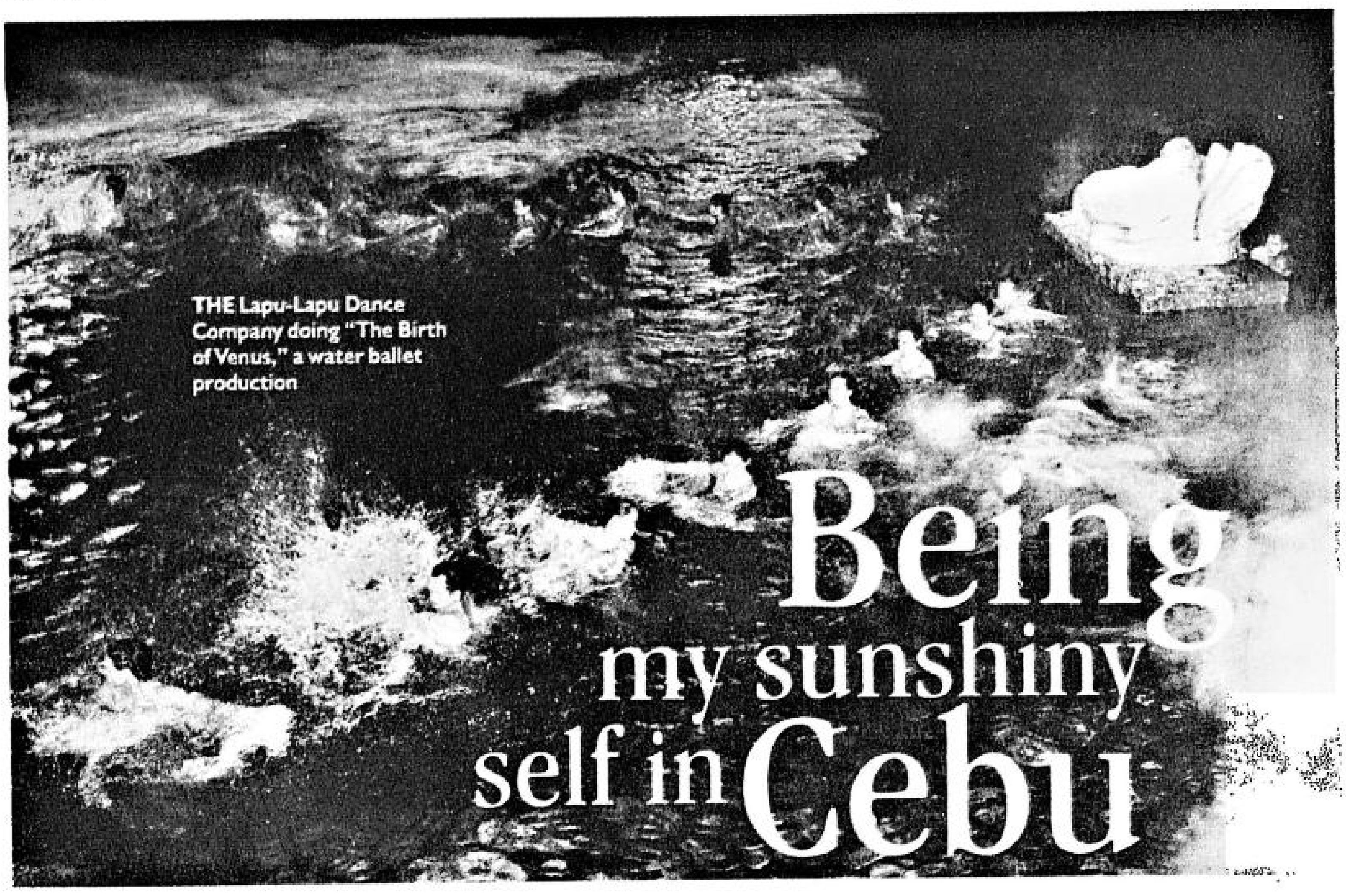

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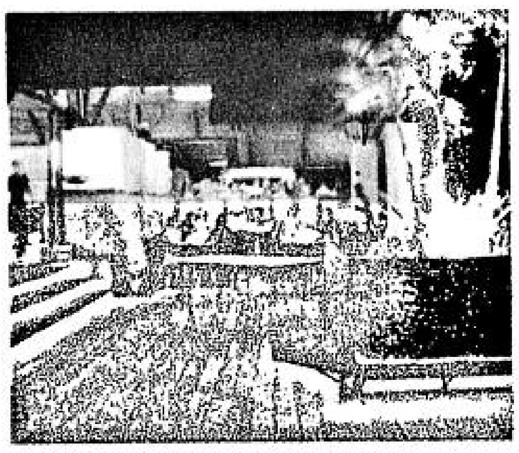

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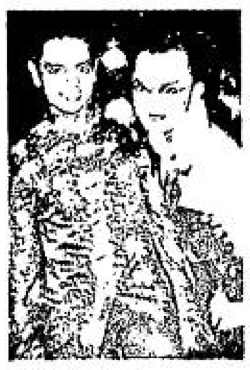

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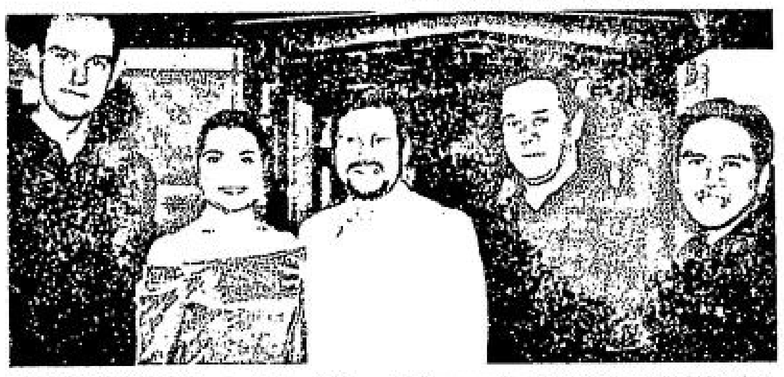

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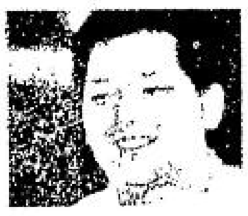

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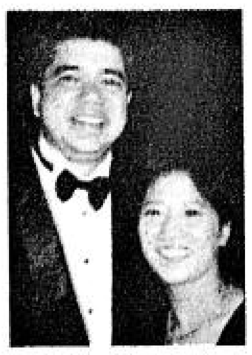

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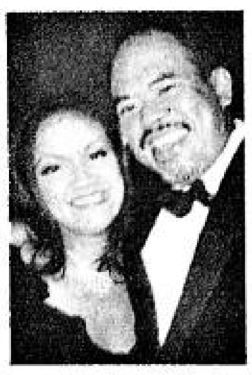

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Neophyte senator is cover girl

SEN. Pia Cayetano with daughters Maxine and Nadine, and mom Sandra

NEWLY elected senator Pia Cayetano, daughter of the late Sen. Rene Cayetano, is featured on the cover of the anniversary issue of Me magazine.

The neophyte legislator talks candidly about her experiences during the campaign and her hopes and expectations in an exclusive interview with Karen Davila, originally aired on the show "The Correspondents."

She says she decided to run to honor her father's memory.

Learn more about Pia Cayetano in the anniversary issue of Me magazine. A publication of Mega Magazines Publications Inc. (MMPI)/The Mega Group, Me is now available in leading bookstores and newsstands nationwide. Call 6312859.

MAS MALAKAS, MAS MATINDI!
Tinodo ang DXM* na pumipigil ng ubo.
TUSERAN FORTE
Ubos ang ubo at anumang kasama nito!
DEXTROMETHORPHAN HBr
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PARACETAMOL
TUSERAN FORTE
Reformulated
*DXM is Dextromethorphan
If symptoms persist, consult your doctor

Tea: The Natural Way To A Clear Mind

You know that it's all in your mind-small decisions here and there that multiply faster than you think, lifelong dreams that sometimes seem so real and yet in a split second seem to wander off completely. You know your mind can one day be a mine of ideas and suddenly a mountain of data. So what better way to begin any hurdle than having things clearer in your head? At the end of the day, it all boils down to having a clear mind.

There's a world of difference between simply looking and truly seeing, between hearing and listening, between capturing information and crystallizing ideas. When your head is clear, it means you're in place and everything around you falls in place as well. It means both your feet are on the ground-you're quiet but strong , you're calm but collected. It also means you're alert and ready to take on anything on your path.

And the secret to a clear mind is no rocket science, and follows no mind- boggling formula. It's as simple as a cup of tea. Yup - it's time to turn a new leaf and experience the power of tea. Like the rest of the world, you well know that tea is good for your body-but are you aware of the wonders that tea can do to your mind?

Research has finally named the secret that has linked tea with mental vitality. It's called **Theanine** and it's found almost exclusively in the tea plant. Not a lot of people may know what it is but Theanine is certainly one of the big reasons why more and more are turning to tea nowadays as their beverage of choice.

Scientific research has validated the link between Theanine and a perfect state of calmness. Theanine is the very reason why you're not as hyperactive when you drink tea as compared to when you drink coffee[1]. But it's also the reason why you don't feel sleepy when drinking tea. In short, it's the Theanine in your cup of tea that calms you in just the right way to put you in place and bring you to your "comfort zone." And just as you're perfectly settled, Theanine raises your level of mental alertness by stimulating your brain to increase its production of alpha brain waves. The effect is higher mental focus, better concentration and sharper memory. Studies have also pointed out how Theanine could effectively promote creativity[2]. Now that's when the miracle of Theanine unfolds. The unique combination of relaxation and alertness, of increasing mental sharpness while at your most comfortable state of mind and body, results in this renewed clarity of thought and mental vitality. Cup after cup after cup, the power of the leaf brings you to your natural groove.

And when you're talking about tea, nothing comes close to the Lipton name. Lipton Yellow Label Tea is made from a blend of premium quality tea leaves from all over the world. These sun-kissed, rain-polished leaves are plucked by hand up to this very day so it's as natural as natural can be. What's even better is that every bag of Lipton Yellow Label tea is bursting with Theanine to make you relaxed and alert so that you can clear your mind naturally and bring out your natural best.

So clearly, if clarity of mind is your cup of tea and natural is your kind of thing, don't forget that with Lipton Yellow Label Tea, it's all in the bag.

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[1] "To Your Health", article on www.austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2003-07-04/cols_health.html

[2] "L-Theanine: How A Unique Anxiety Reducer and Mood Enhancer Increases Alpha Waves and Alertness", article on www.brain.web-us.com/l-theanine_anxiety_reducer.htm

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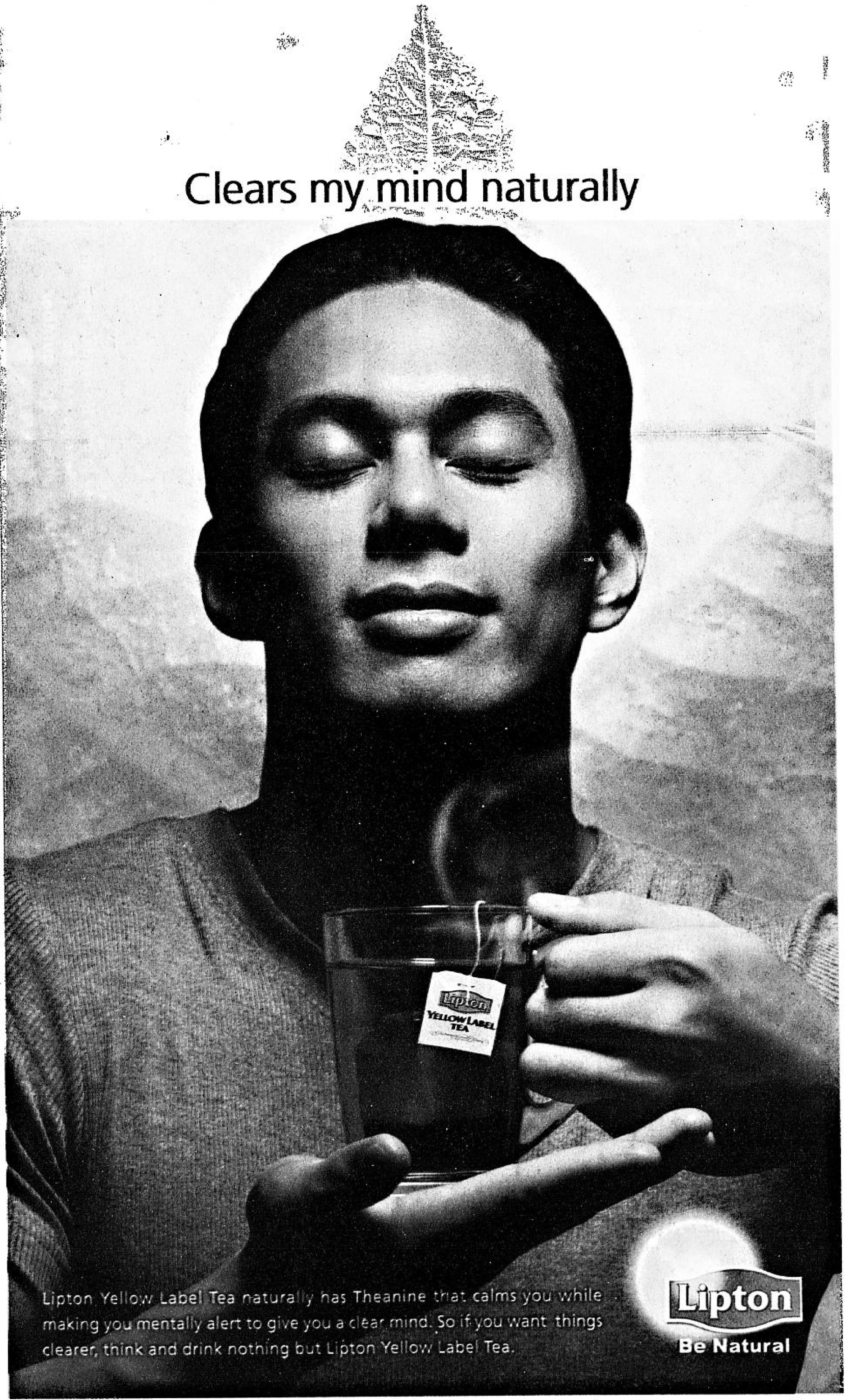
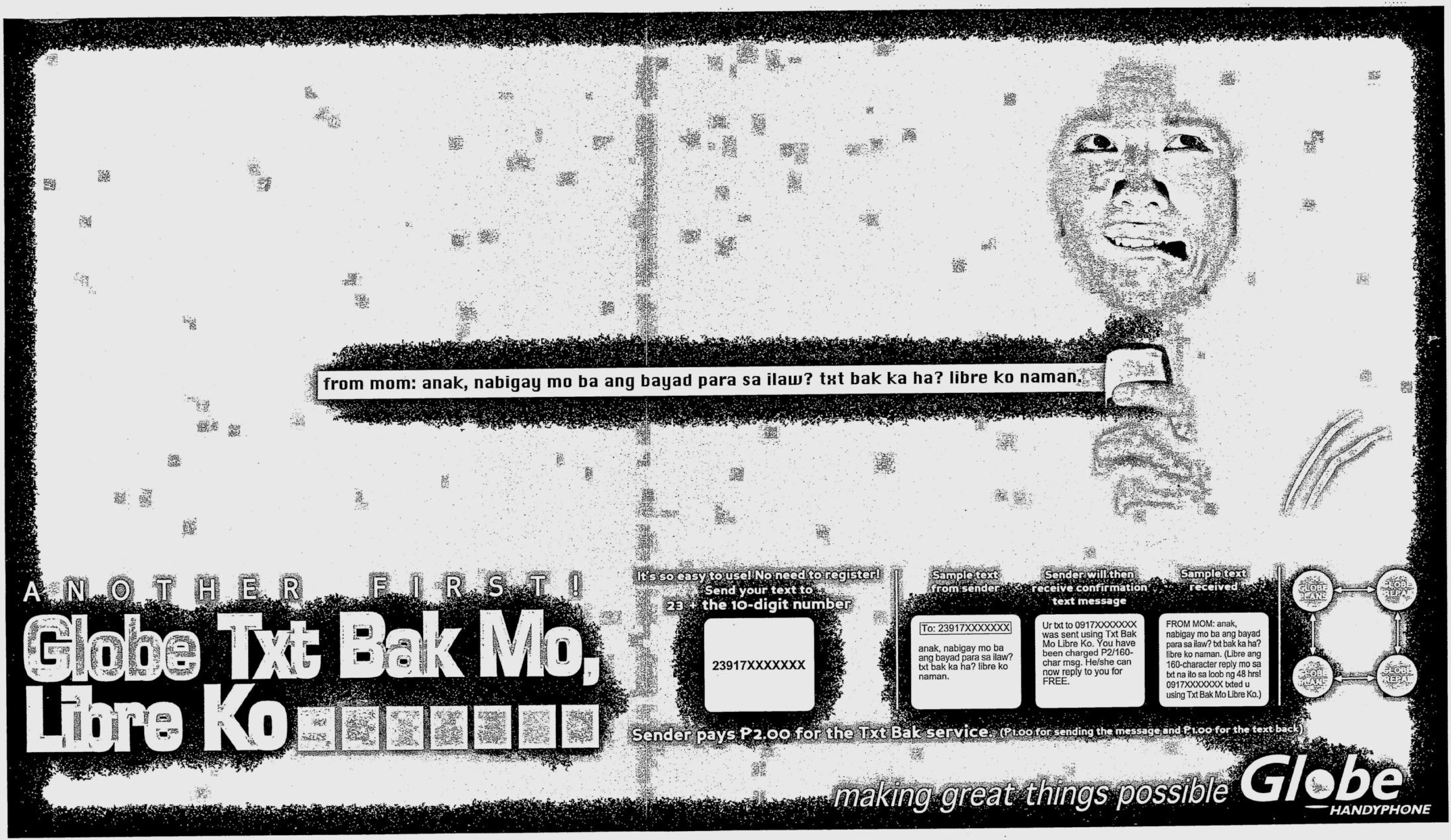


Lipton Yellow Label Tea naturally has Theanine that calms you while making you mentally alert to give you a clear mind. So if you want things clearer, think and drink nothing but Lipton Yellow Label Tea.


from mom: anak, nabigay mo ba ang bayad para sa ilaw? txt bak ka ha? libre ko naman.
GLOBE LANE
GLOBE REPA
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GLOBE REPA
making great things possible
Globe HANDYPHONE

ANOTHER FIRST!

Globe Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko

It's so easy to use! No need to register!
Send your text to
23 + the 10-digit number

23917XXXXXXX

Sample text from sender

To: 23917XXXXXXX
anak, nabigay mo ba ang bayad para sa ilaw? txt bak ka ha? libre ko naman.

Sender will then receive confirmation text message

Ur txt to 0917XXXXXXX was sent using Txt Bak Mo Libre Ko. You have been charged P2/160-char msg. He/she can now reply to you for FREE.

Sample text received

FROM MOM: anak, nabigay mo ba ang bayad para sa ilaw? txt bak ka ha? libre ko naman. (Libre ang 160-character reply mo sa txt na ito sa loob ng 48 hrs! 0917XXXXXXX txted u using Txt Bak Mo Libre Ko.)

Sender pays P2.00 for the Txt Bak service. (P1.00 for sending the message and P1.00 for the text back)

Sunday LIFESTYLE
For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Where Bantay can go malling

"PORKY brings out the kid in me. When I get home from work, all stressed out, I get to play with him," says Procter & Gamble brand manager Aisa Mae Yap of her shitzu.

Text Feedback: inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

HER cell phone's ringback is a barking dog. Meet Amanda Griffin's loves: Boggle (Golden Pomeranian), 8, Rummy (Australian Silky Terrier), 9, and Grizzly (Black Pomeranian), 2.

Eastwood City is the first pet-friendly mall in the country

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Rudy Esperas

THE DAYS when quality time with four-legged friends meant only a stroll within the private village are numbered. Finally, there's a mall that encourages the furry members of the family to dine, shop or simply hang out with their owners—and even get the chance to meet new buddies along the way.

That's right. You may take a leisurely sip of coffee with your best bud Max the retriever, or browse the bookstore shelf with your stealthy Siamese Medusa. Pet owners can even attend seminars and workshops on a variety of pet topics—with their pets in tow, if they want—for free. They not only get to bond with their pets, but learn something on, say, health and diet, nutrition, grooming, training, self-defense and more.

"Our objective from day one was responsible pet ownership," says Enrique M. Soriano III, country president and CEO of ERA Real Estate Exchange Inc., the company that manages Eastwood City in Libis, Quezon City.

A self-confessed dog lover (he has 13), Soriano says ERA, a US-based company, always includes pets in its service delivery program. Upon handling Eastwood City Walk 2, the mall's second phase, he says ERA conducted an informal study on how shoppers view having pets around a supposedly human turf. The results were positive: There may have been no clamor for a pet-friendly arcade then, but already the consumers were more than willing to share their space with pets.

Eastwood City is probably the country's first and only pet-friendly mall that its structure is specifically designed to accommodate pets. Open spaces and wide walkways define its composition. There's plenty of legroom for people and pets, and air flows freely within the complex.

About 80 percent of the mall's commercial centers allow pets inside their outlets. The reluctant 20 percent include fine-dining restaurants (although they do allow pets to dine al fresco). Soon a new line of gourmet pet food will be served in some restaurants in the mall. Pedigree is already in the process of cooking up its gourmet line.

Other no-nos for pets are the cyber mall—too many high-tech and delicate equipment lying around—and the cinemas. But, says Kevin L. Tan, ERA director for commercial operations: "We are working on the cinemas. The problem there would be if they start barking, and the floors are carpeted... But if we can find a way to adjust that, then why not?"

Weekends, especially Sundays, are the popular days for bringing in pets. "It's very therapeutic to be around pets. There's a lot of interaction among our shoppers. They seem amused and happy," Soriano says.

Soriano says Eastwood City has hired additional workforce since the project was launched so as not to compromise cleanliness and sanitation.

Responsible owners

Not that Eastwood City is complaining. Soriano happily notes that owners have so far been very responsible in looking after their pets, including cleaning up after them, that the mall has now begun to cut back on the extra janitorial services. (There's a P500 penalty if owners don't clean up, by the way.)

"I think they are just too happy that there's a venue for them and their pets to hang around," Soriano says.

"This is our service to pet owners. Walking pets around the village is so restricting and confined. What if you want to do things together?" Tan adds.

There have been no dogfights either, so to speak. Although house rules say pets must not

WHERE/ H2

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Someone whose achievement inspires you but remains an unsung hero.

Help us find her and be rewarded with a generous prize.

Nominate her...

it's time to name a hero you know

SUSAN, 22 years old, Filipina, ballerina
Passionate, graceful and a catalyst.
Teaches ballet in an impoverished barangay in Mindoro.
An ordinary woman but she's definitely one-of-a-kind.

Dove is looking for Filipinas, 18-30 years old, of good moral character and have made an impact in any of the following fields: music & dance, literature, visual arts, science & technology and business & entrepreneurship.

Visit www.dovebukodtangi.com or call (02) 588-8800
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Deadline of Nomination is on August 21, 2004.

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Celebrating Women's Triumphs

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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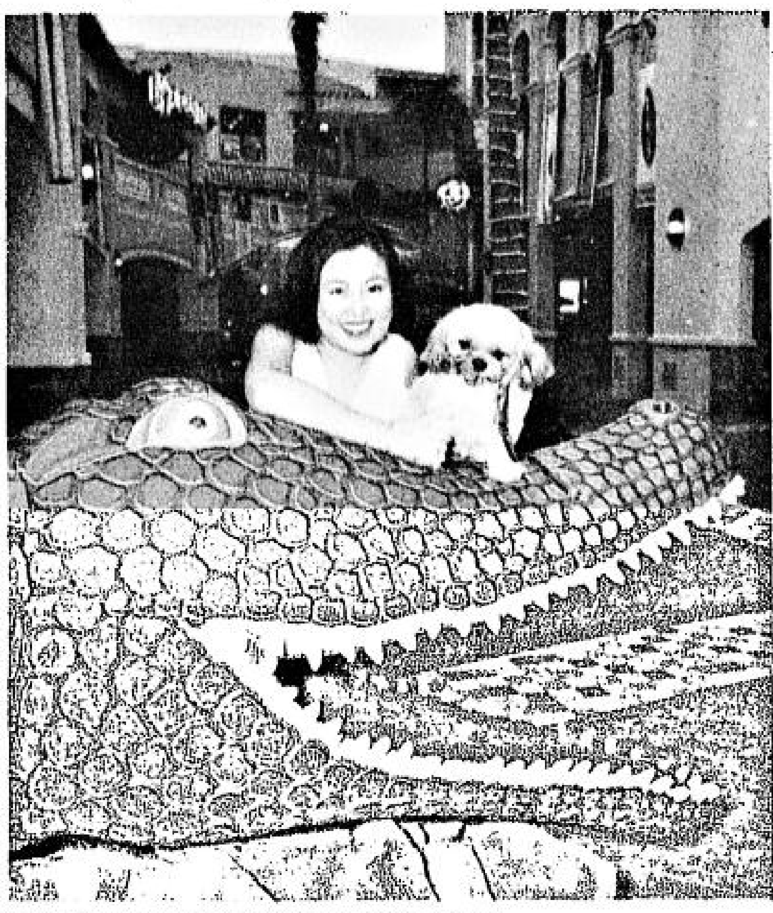
Where Bantay can go malling



"PORKY brings out the kid in me. When I get home from work, all stressed out, I get to play with him," says Procter & Gamble brand manager Aisa Mae Yap of her shitzu.

HER cell phone's ringback is a barking dog. Meet Amanda Griffin's loves: Boggle (Golden Pomeranian), 8, Rummy (Australian Silky Terrier), 9, and Grizzly (Black Pomeranian), 2.

Eastwood City is the first pet-friendly mall in the country

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Rudy Esperas

THE DAYS when quality time with four-legged friends meant only a stroll within the private village are numbered. Finally, there's a mall that encourages the furry members of the family to dine, shop or simply hang out with their owners—and even get the chance to meet new buddies along the way.

That's right. You may take a leisurely sip of coffee with your best bud Max the retriever, or browse the bookstore shelf with your stealthy Siamese Medusa. Pet owners can even attend seminars and workshops on a variety of pet topics—with their pets in tow, if they want—for free. They not only get to bond with their pets, but learn something on, say, health and diet, nutrition, grooming, training, self-defense and more.

"Our objective from day one was responsible pet ownership," says Enrique M. Soriano III, country president and CEO of ERA Real Estate Exchange Inc., the company that manages Eastwood City in Libis, Quezon City.

A self-confessed dog lover (he has 13), Soriano says ERA, a US-based company, always includes pets in its service delivery program. Upon handling Eastwood City Walk 2, the mall's second phase, he says ERA conducted an informal study on how shoppers view having pets around a supposedly human turf. The results were positive: There may have been no clamor for a pet-friendly arcade then, but already the consumers were more than willing to share their space with pets.

Eastwood City is probably the country's first and only pet-friendly mall that its structure is specifically designed to accommodate pets. Open spaces and wide walkways define its composition. There's plenty of legroom for people and pets, and air flows freely within the complex.

About 80 percent of the mall's commercial centers allow pets inside their outlets. The reluctant 20 percent include fine-dining restaurants (although they do allow pets to dine al fresco). Soon a new line of gourmet pet food will be served in some restaurants in the mall. Pedigree is already in the process of cooking up its gourmet line.

Other no-nos for pets are the cyber mall—too many high-tech and delicate equipment lying around—and the cinemas. But, says Kevin L. Tan, ERA director for commercial operations: "We are working on the cinemas. The problem there would be if they start barking, and the floors are carpeted… But if we can find a way to adjust that, then why not?"

Weekends, especially Sundays, are the popular days for bringing in pets. "It's very therapeutic to be around pets. There's a lot of interaction among our shoppers. They seem amused and happy," Soriano says.

Soriano says Eastwood City has hired additional workforce since the project was launched so as not to compromise cleanliness and sanitation.

Responsible owners

Not that Eastwood City is complaining. Soriano happily notes that owners have so far been very responsible in looking after their pets, including cleaning up after them, that the mall has now begun to cut back on the extra janitorial services. (There's a P500 penalty if owners don't clean up, by the way.)

"I think they are just too happy that there's a venue for them and their pets to hang around," Soriano says.

"This is our service to pet owners. Walking pets around the village is so restricting and confined. What if you want to do things together?" Tan adds.

There have been no dogfights either, so to speak. Although house rules say pets must not

WHERE H2

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St. Hannibal Mary di Francia is the apostle of prayer for vocations

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

THE CANONIZATION of St. Hannibal Mary di Francia on May 16 in Rome, together with five other saints, augurs well for the campaign for constant praying for vocations. The approval of the canonization was announced on Feb. 19, and the Pope wanted the ceremonies to take place on May 19. It is said that the Holy Father wanted to draw the attention of Christians to the importance of prayer for vocations through St. Hannibal, according to Fr. Giorgio Nalin, superior general of the Rogationists.

St. Hannibal was born in Messina, Italy, where his incorruptible body is kept in the Temple of the Prayer for Vocations near the cathedral. The saint is the founder of the Rogationist Fathers and the Daughters of the Divine Zeal.

Almost 100 pilgrims from the Philippines, including priests and nuns, together with Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo attended the canonization in St. Peter's Square.

It was in Iloilo where the miracle that decided the canonization of St. Hannibal took place. Charisse Nicole Diaz was born in 1993 and suffered severe bacterial meningitis. When medical science could not bring about a cure, family and friends began the novena to Blessed Hannibal and pinned a medal with the relic of Blessed Hannibal on the child's clothing.

The infant was miraculously healed with no evidence of the disease. Now 11, Charisse went with her parents, doctors Zarah and Oscarito Diaz, to Rome for the canonization.

Another miracle in Cebu

Before he left for Rome, Fr. Jun Ranera who is in charge of the St. Hannibal Rogate Center in Merville Park, Parañaque, was asked by Jon Jarantilla, 28, of Cebu to pray for him as he was suffering from a tumor between the heart and lungs. The surgery would have cost P8 million.

Father Jun prayed for him in Rome and when he came back to Manila, he was told by the aunt of Jon that the young man was healed. There was no sign of the tumor.

Rogationist presence

The Rogationist Fathers have been in the Philippines for 27 years now. They have a beautiful church in Multi-National Village and two orphanages in Silang, Cavite, and Davao. They are called St. Anthony's Village after St. Anthony de Padua, whom St. Hannibal considered the treasurer of the order.

Those who wish for prayer cards can text Fr. Jun Ranera at 0919-5526043 or write to Rogate Center on 1 Calcutta St., Merville Park, Parañaque. Those who want to send testimonies of miracles can write to the same address.

Statues of St. Hannibal are available at Angelissimo stores in Robinsons Galleria and Robinsons Place, Ermita.

The devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

I was blessed to have been able to visit the Church of St. Alphonsus in Rome when my fellow pilgrims and I were there for the canonization of St. Josemaria Escriva in October 2002. The original icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is enthroned in this church.

"The Filipino people are blessed to be able to pray to her in their churches, especially in her church in Baclaran. In the history written about the devotion in the Philippines which began in 1906, it says that the devotion has spread throughout the country. The Redemptorist Missionaries introduced the devotion here. In 1931, the foundation of the Redemptorist house and church in Baclaran, Manila, was blessed with the Novena in her honor.

During World War II, Japanese troops expropriated the Redemptorist house and dispersed the religious community. The Fathers were able to save the icon of Perpetual Help and concealed it with friends.

At the end of the war (1945), the Redemptorists returned to Baclaran. To their dismay, they found the house of these friends looted and burned. The image of the Virgin was nowhere to be found. After much prayer and searching, they finally discovered the icon in an Army warehouse. The rescue operation was completed and the icon of Perpetual Help returned to her shrine and her public.

The Perpetual Novena was first celebrated in Baclaran on June 23, 1948. In 1953, construction was begun on a church as the people simply did not fit in the chapel. With the donation from Mary's devotees, the church was built and finally consecrated in December 1958. From that date to the present, the church holds some 11,000 people.

Mother Jeronima de la Asuncion

As we celebrate the feast of St. Clare of Assisi on Aug. 11, we remember Mother Jeronima de la Asuncion, founder of Monasterio de Sta. Clara on Katipunan Road, Marikina.

The bone relic of Mother Jeronima is placed near the altar for veneration.

The Poor Clares are waiting for the beatification of the Servant of God, Mother Jeronima. Those who want prayer cards can write to Monasterio de Sta. Clara on C-5 Marikina, or write me c/o P.O. Box 2050, Manila. Please enclose self-addressed stamped envelop for easier mailing.

Our Lady of Caysasay in Paco

The Blessed Virgin of Caysasay Foundation donated an image of Our Lady of Caysasay to St. Peter Church on Rodriguez Avenue in Paco, on July 17. The enthronement coincided with the installation of Fr. Manny Regalado as parish priest. Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales officiated the Mass.

Churches who want a donation of the image can text Sally Gonzalez at 0927-4701575.

Devotees of Our Lady of Manaoag

The Grand Boulevard Hotel invites the public to visit the image of Our Lady of Manaoag at its Taal function Room. Holy Mass in honor of Our Lady is scheduled today at 9 a.m. The Taal Room will remain open to devotees all evening until morning of Aug. 1, after the Holy Mass. The public is invited to drop petitions and flowers.

THE PHILIPPINE delegation during the canonization of St. Hannibal Mary di Francia

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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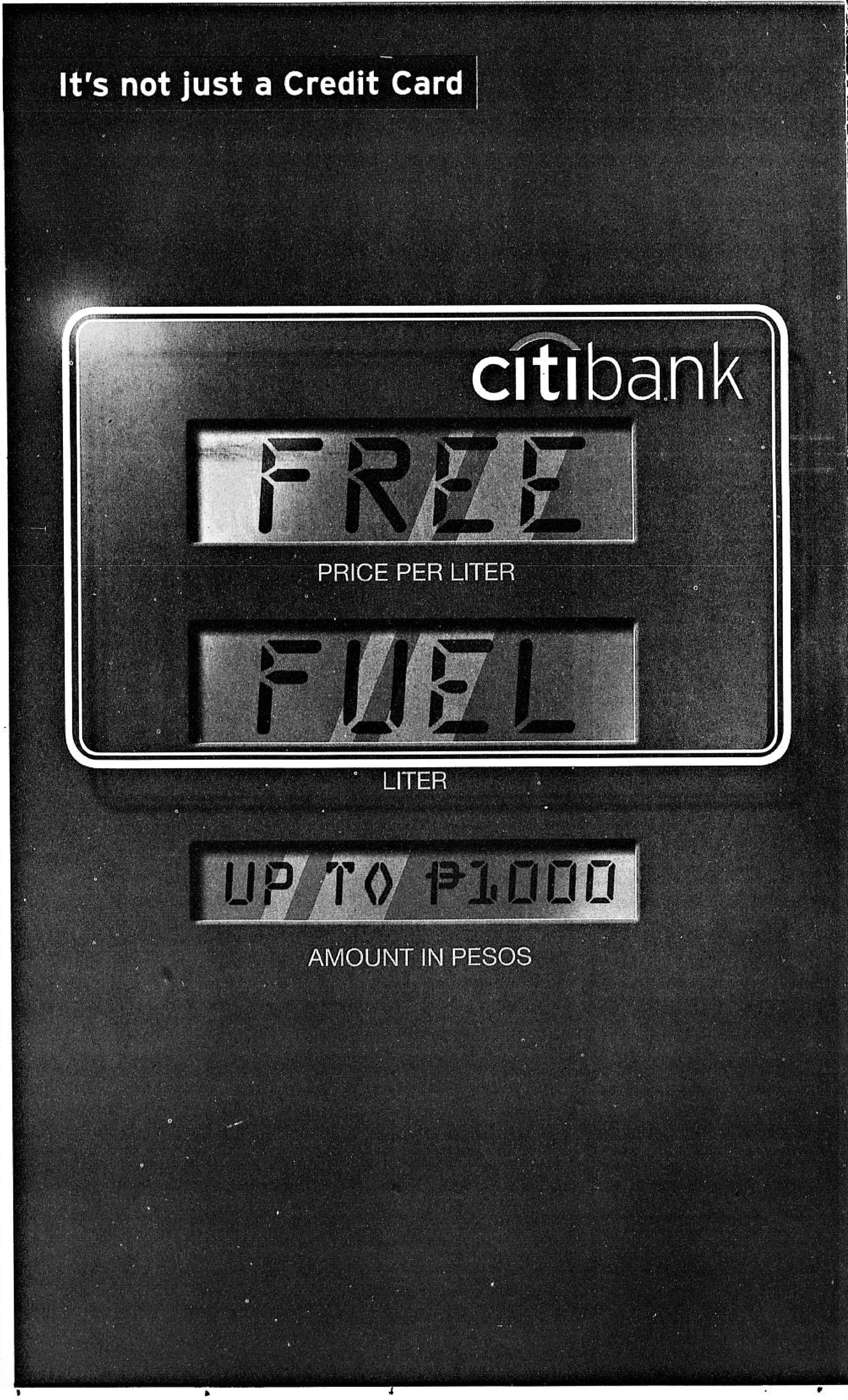

ERA Real Estate Exchange Inc.'s Enrique Soriano III and Kevin Tan pose before the fountain where coin donations for Eastwood City's various advocacies are collected every morning.

Where Bantay can go malling

From page H1

exceed 2 ft tall, Soriano says the mall is flexible. No problem then if a noble Great Dane would be standing next to an aggressive Rottweiler. The pets are trained, says Soriano, and their owners trustworthy.

And nobody's stopping a shopper from spending time with, say, a St. Bernard. Just make sure s/he can lift this colossal dog when taking the elevators. Now that's a strict mall policy.

But what of mortal enemies cats and dogs? Surprisingly, both seem to get along fine—as long as neither gets in the way of the other. Besides, as Soriano good-naturedly insists, pets are on a leash, and their owners always around.

Eastwood City will also have a pet clinic for checkups and emergencies, and a permanent grooming and salon center. Big pet activities, such as beauty pageants and parades, are scheduled twice a month, with seminars and workshops every Sundays. Schedule of events is posted at the mall's entrance. Already pet owners come as far as Baguio—that's right—to participate in its many pet activities.

Just recently, the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (Paws), Pedigree and Whiskas awarded Eastwood City the Golden Paw Award for being a dog- and cat-friendly establishment. With the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), a fountain has been constructed where shoppers can donate coins. Proceeds go to the various advocacies of Eastwood City.

"We are a bit behind our Asian neighbors in this concept. The Philippines is among the Asian countries that are so fond of pets. It's time we walk our talk," Soriano says.

E-mail feedback to ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

"I DON'T want to see animals getting hurt," says model Robby Mananquil, who has no qualms walking his "chick dog" Oatmeal. The shitzu was given to him as a gift two years ago, when he was into rigid gym training and diet, hence the name.

CATS do have nine lives. Angelo was run over twice by a car before he met his adoptive owner Anna Marie Periquet. "The doctor said [Angelo] won't survive. I said he will."

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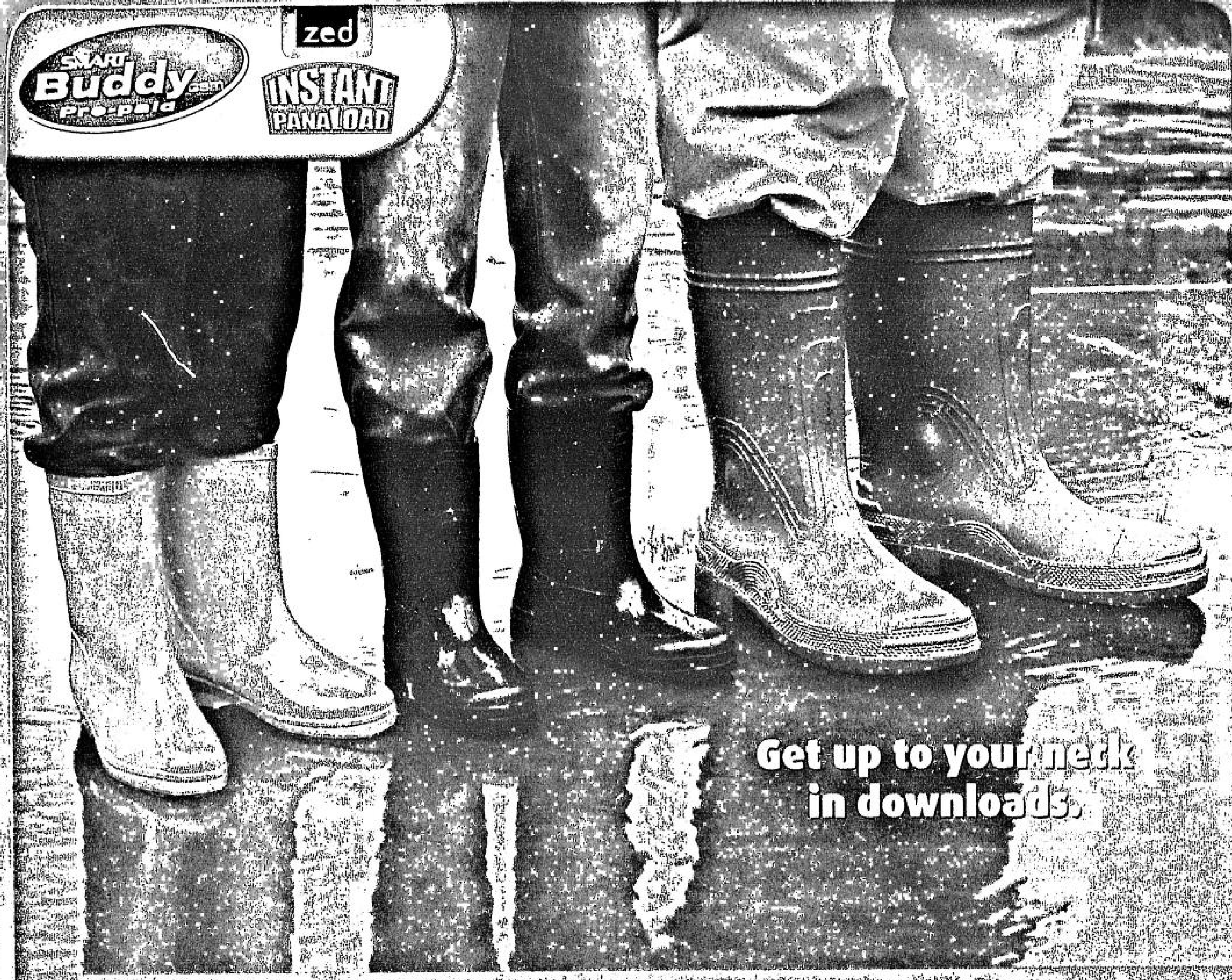

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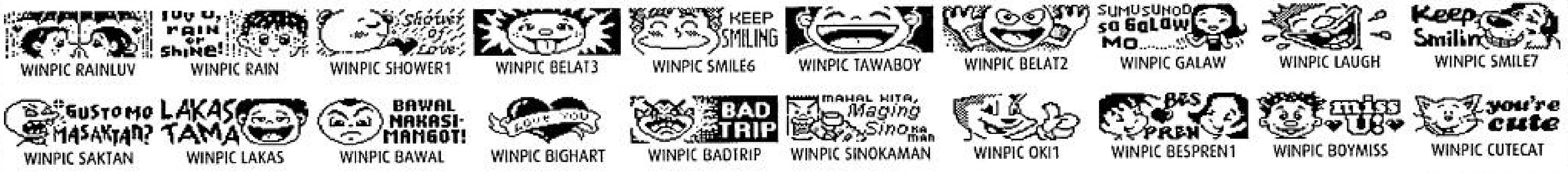

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WINPIC RAIN
WINPIC SHOWER1
WINPIC BELAT3
WINPIC SMILE6
WINPIC TAWABOY
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WINPIC LAUGH
WINPIC SMILE7
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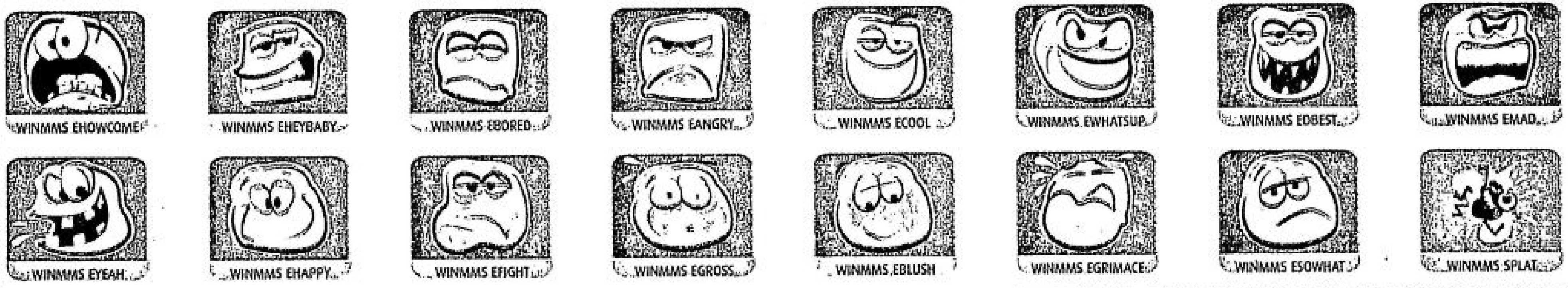
WINPIC CUTECAT

Wallpapers



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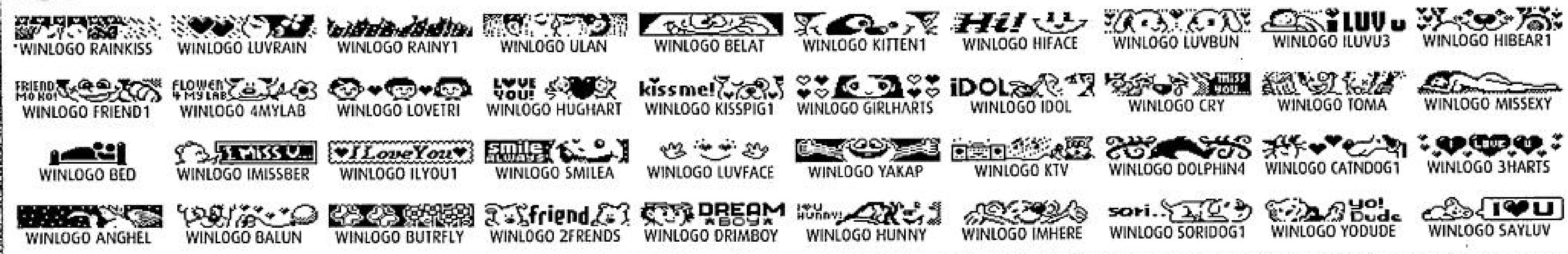
Logos



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WINLOGO KITTEN1
WINLOGO HIFACE
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WINLOGO ILUVU3
WINLOGO HIBEAR1
WINLOGO FRIEND1
WINLOGO 4MYLAB
WINLOGO LOVETRI
WINLOGO HUGHART
WINLOGO KISSPIG1
WINLOGO GIRLHARTS
WINLOGO IDOL
WINLOGO CRY
WINLOGO TOMA
WINLOGO MISSEXY
WINLOGO BED
WINLOGO IMISSBER
WINLOGO ILYOU1
WINLOGO SMILEA
WINLOGO LUVFACE
WINLOGO YAKAP
WINLOGO KTV
WINLOGO DOLPHIN4
WINLOGO CATNDOG1
WINLOGO 3HARTS
WINLOGO ANGHEL
WINLOGO BALUN
WINLOGO BUTRFLY
WINLOGO 2FRENDS
WINLOGO DRIMBOY
WINLOGO HUNNY
WINLOGO IMHERE
WINLOGO SORIDOG1
WINLOGO YODUDE
WINLOGO SAYLUV

P.O.W.

PICK OF THE WEEK

POW	KEYWORD
Pic Message	POWPIC
Mono Ringtones	POWTONE
Poly Ringtones	POWPOLY
OPM Ringtones	POWOPM
Rock Ringtones	POWROCK
Girl Logos	POWGAL
Guy Logos	POWGUY
Wallpaper	POWMMS

Send keyword to **288**.

Mono tones

Song title	Artist/Composer	Tone keywords
Butterfly	*Crazy Town*	**WINTONE BUTTERFLY**
All The Small Things	*Blink-182*	**WINTONE ALLTHE**
Rock Your Body	*Justin Timberlake*	**WINTONE ROCKYOUR**
Together Again	*Janet Jackson*	**WINTONE 2GDERAGN**
Vengabus (We Like To Party)	*Vengaboys*	**WINTONE VENGABUS**
Be With You	*Atomic Kitten*	**WINTONE BWYOU**
Bootylicious	*Destiny's Child*	**WINTONE BOOTYLI**
If You Had My Love	*Jennifer Lopez*	**WINTONE IFYOUHAD**
Uptown Girl	*Westlife*	**WINTONE UPTOWN**
Hey Ya	*Outkast*	**WINTONE HEYYA**
I'm Like A Bird	*Nelly Furtado*	**WINTONE IMLIKEA**
Breakout	*Swing Out Sister*	**WINTONE BREAKOUT**
Underneath It All	*No Doubt*	**WINTONE UNDERNEATH**
Where Is The Love	*Black Eyed Peas*	**WINTONE WERISLUV**
Buses and Trains	*Bachelor Girl*	**WINTONE BUSESAND**
Head Over Feet	*Alanis Morrissette*	**WINTONE HEADFEET**
This Love	*Maroon 5*	**WINTONE THISLOVE**
Right Thurr	*Chingy*	**WINTONE THURR**
Turn Me On	*Kevin Lyttle*	**WINTONE TURNME**
Next Episode	*Dr. Dre*	**WINTONE NEXTEP**

Poly tones

Song title	Artist/Composer	Poly keywords
Butterfly	*Crazy Town*	**WINPOLY BUTTERFLY**
All The Small Things	*Blink-182*	**WINPOLY ALLTHE**
Rock Your Body	*Justin Timberlake*	**WINPOLY ROCKYOUR**
Together Again	*Janet Jackson*	**WINPOLY 2GDERAGN**
Vengabus (We Like To Party)	*Vengaboys*	**WINPOLY VENGABUS**
Be With You	*Atomic Kitten*	**WINPOLY BWYOU**
Bootylicious	*Destiny's Child*	**WINPOLY BOOTYLI**
If You Had My Love	*Jennifer Lopez*	**WINPOLY IFYOUHAD**
Uptown Girl	*Westlife*	**WINPOLY UPTOWN**
Hey Ya	*Outkast*	**WINPOLY HEYYA**
I'm Like A Bird	*Nelly Furtado*	**WINPOLY IMLIKEA**
Breakout	*Swing Out Sister*	**WINPOLY BREAKOUT**
Underneath It All	*No Doubt*	**WINPOLY UNDERNEATH**
Where Is The Love	*Black Eyed Peas*	**WINPOLY WERISLUV**
Buses and Trains	*Bachelor Girl*	**WINPOLY BUSESAND**
Head Over Feet	*Alanis Morrissette*	**WINPOLY HEADFEET**
This Love	*Maroon 5*	**WINPOLY THISLOVE**
Right Thurr	*Chingy*	**WINPOLY THURR**
Turn Me On	*Kevin Lyttle*	**WINPOLY TURNME**
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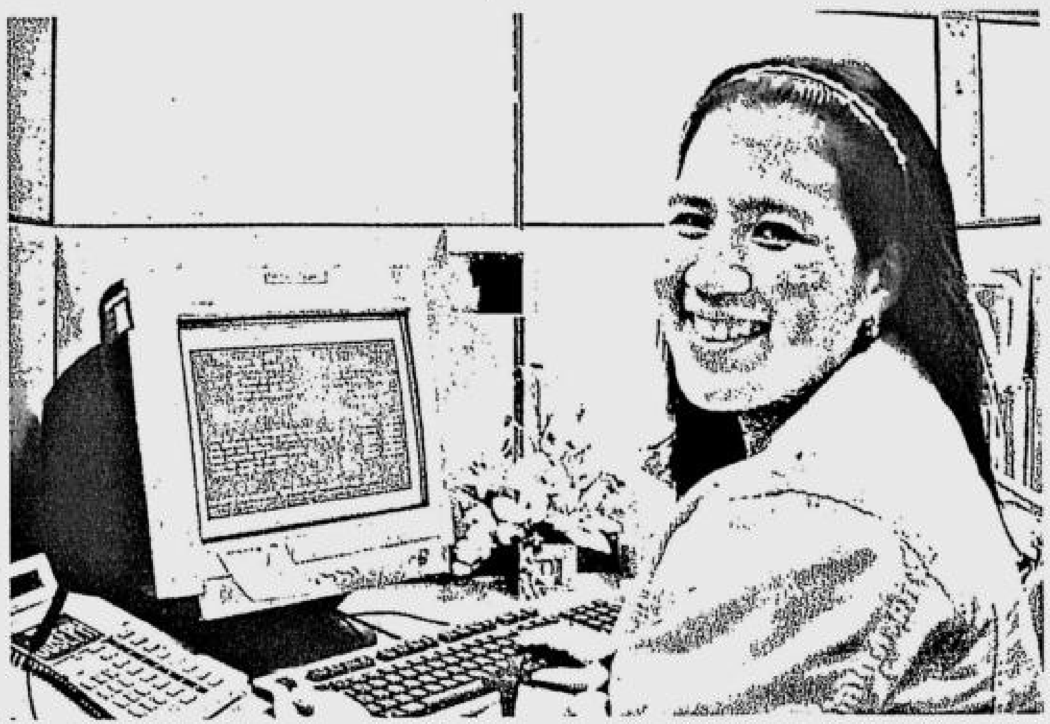

THE FACE behind the voice. Alexis Adorador has been with Globe Telecom Customer Service for three years.
BEIA FORMOSO

Where hello really means hello

By Beia Formoso
Contributor

CUSTOMER service is a tough job, and that's an understatement for work that involves sitting behind a desk and computer all day (or night), taking calls nonstop from screaming, irritated people who demand answers no later than right now.

Working in call centers where the mantra is "the customer's always right" is not for everybody. Especially when it comes to the customer service division of cellular communication providers, where competition is so stiff and switching networks is easy as pie.

Since its conception in 1992, Globe Telecom has been connecting Filipinos not only within the country but from all over the world. Today it is the leading postpaid brand in the market, a sign of the loyalty and satisfaction of its clients—which is why Globe Telecom ensures that the level of trust and confidence of its subscribers—old or new—remains high and constant through promos, new innovations, new phones and, most important, excellent customer service.

"We understand that for subscribers, the

WHERE/12

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Your success is our business

Where hello really means hello

From page L1

customer service professional is the company and we try, as much as possible, to keep Globe's image untarnished," says Deejay Tolentino, Globe's Call Center Management head.

The Globe Telecom Customer Service Center group, headed by Manny Aligada, has been around since 1995.

Located on the fifth floor of the Globe Telecom Plaza in Mandaluyong, the Customer Service Center is like any other call center with cubicles, desks, computers, phones and headsets. However, it is far from drab and dreary. Its warm brown wooden desks, dark gray divisions, not-so-blinding fluorescent lighting and the trademark Globe blue and green colored walls make for a professional yet relaxed atmosphere.

Desks are covered with personal photos and cute ornaments. In-between calls, the operators chat and laugh with one another. And Globe takes "casual Fridays" to a whole new level by initiating themes where the agents come to work dressed as Vegas showgirls from a "casino" or as *reynas* for "Santacruzan."

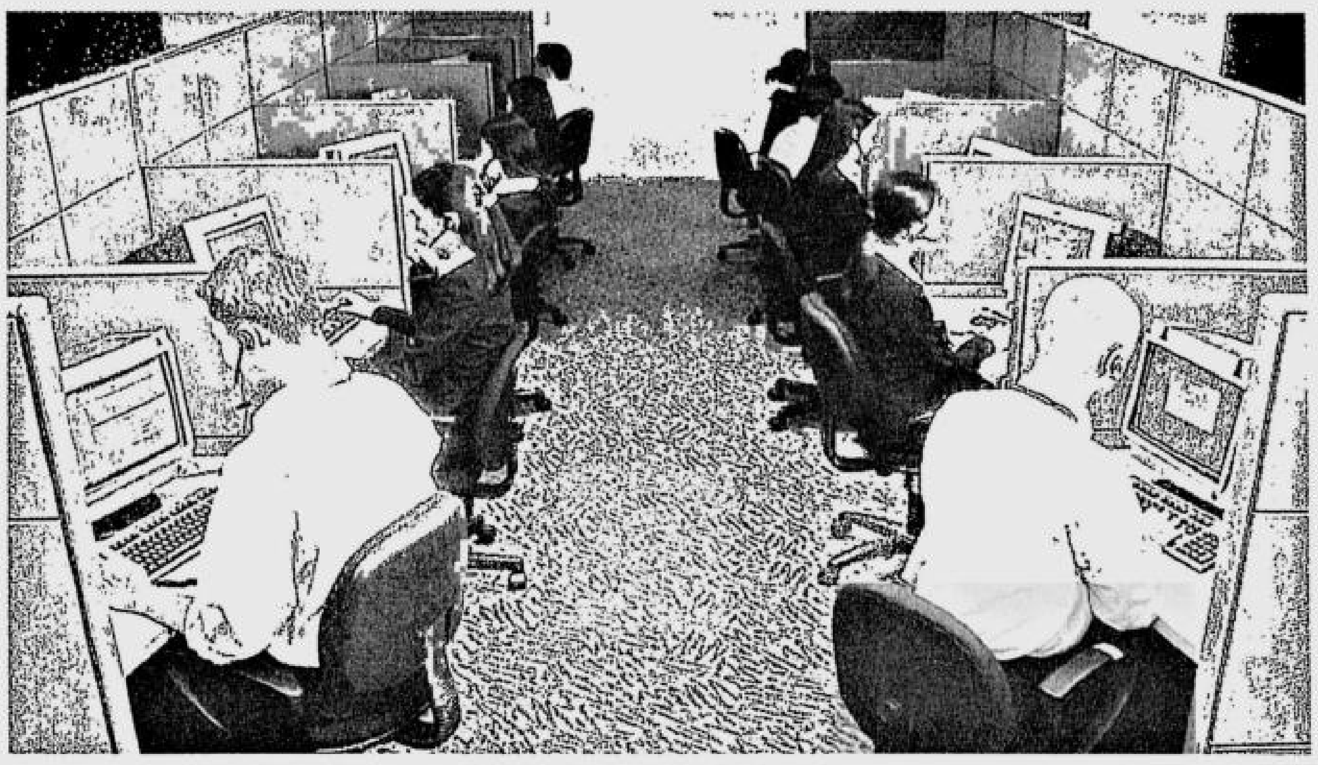
Perhaps that is why the voice of a Globe Hotline operator always sounds perky—s/he may be dressed up in a funny costume and you wouldn't know it!

"It's a difficult environment. The stress level is high," cites Aligada as the reason for planning themes and parties, even organizing a band for the call center agents.

"Think of what will excite you for the next 100 calls," and keep that in mind as you sit through nine hours of nonstop beeping sounds and rings, answering the same questions again and again on billing, roaming, blocked SIM cards and new cellphone models.

Benefits

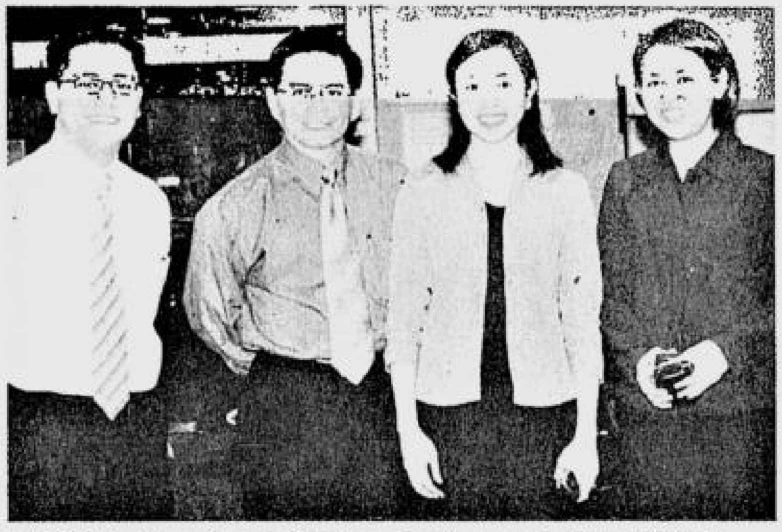
The benefits of working at the Globe Telecom Customer Service Center, however, are relatively better than other call centers. The salary of a Globe call center agent is at par with those of internationally-based call centers in the country. Second, an agent is considered an employee of Globe Telecom and assured of professional growth. After working for about three years as a Globe call center agent, talented employees are promoted or transferred to departments suitable for them, such as marketing, systems, etc. As most of the agents are between 20-25 years old, there is enough time for them to establish a successful career in Globe by the time they turn thirty.


GLOBE Telecom's call-in service is a round-the-clock operation that handles customer concerns and inquiries.

Globe seeks young, energetic individuals who are interested in technology and good communicators in both English and Filipino. But aside from hiring exceptional individuals, Globe invests a lot of resources in training. Agents are showered with information, taught soft and hard skills, and morale management so that they are adept and ready to face customers and challenges.

Tolentino, who was herself once a call center agent, relates that the key to good customer service has always been to be aware that not all customers are the same, and therefore must be serviced the way they want to. In an informal survey on customer relations, most respondents listed "lack of knowledge" as their biggest peeve. Customers are also touchy about being transferred to the wrong party, someone who has absolutely nothing to do with their problem. "At our call center, we aim to fully resolve the customer's concerns at first contact," says Tolentino.

GLOBE Telecom's customer service professionals discuss the latest innovations in customer transactions.


LANCE Martinez (head of business development), Manny Aligada (head of Globe Customer Service), Deejay Tolentino (head of call center) and Trina Henson (head of service quality and development)

Soon there'll be no need for you to call at all, as some queries may now be addressed by the subscriber via text.

"We want to empower our subscribers by putting other service functions 'right in their hands' so to speak," says Lance Martinez, Business Development head for Customer Service. Globe Telecom Customer Service's newest feature is a facility that enables postpaid subscribers to inquire about their balance via text messaging—free of charge. That means lesser transfer-calls, waiting time and letters. "Five years ago, you had to write a letter (to address inquiries or activation). Now, as much as possible, we don't request for a letter," says Aligada.

Quality customer service, according to Aligada, is also about "preventing the problems before they happen." This is called proactive customer care, where the company approaches the customers—in Globe's case, through Welcome Calls, contacting you upon First Billing or Migration, etc.

"A person who handles customers must always treat the next customer like the first," says Aligada. When you call on Globe, you can rest assured that you will always be treated as the first customer. Globe's 24-hour Call-in Service for regular subscribers and Platinum members is available 24 hours a day, every day, including holidays.

Next time you dial 211 on your cell phone or (02) 730-1000 on your landline, remember that there are real people behind those lines who will do their best to help you.

SERVICE with a smile. Emer Gutierrez, head of Globe Platinum Hotline Unit; Bea Ledesma of Philippine Star; and Aileen

BEIA FORMOSO

THEME DAY. The call center is transported back to the 1970s as customer service professionals wear their best vintage outfits for an office party.

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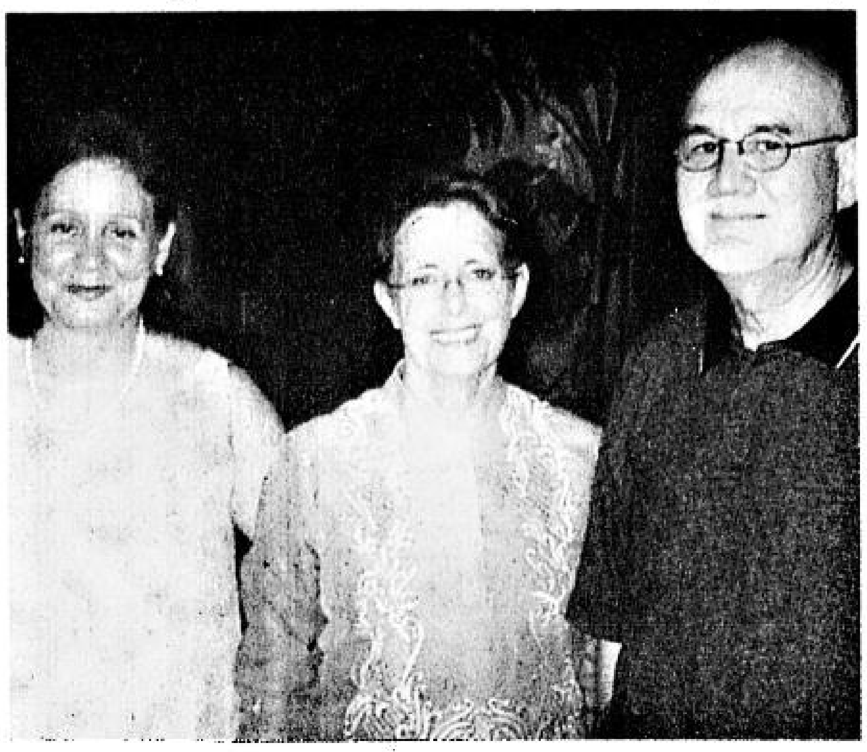

SUSAN Sala, Micheline Jess and Jose Sala

ZENY Deen and Ambassador Herbert Jess

'Moon river' provides backdrop to party of the year

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE SHANGRI-LA'S Mactan Island Resort relaunched its seaside restaurant Cowrie Cove with what was dubbed the party of the year. July 3 was the day chosen as the full moon rising on the horizon turned the sea fronting Cowrie Cove into a "moon river."

There were two other reasons for the occasion: to welcome incoming general manager **Tim Wright** and say goodbye to well-loved **Desmond Hatton,** who is off to the Arabian sands and beaches in what everyone says is a promotion.

The party would be hard to top. Guests were led through the resort's gardens, the paths lined with beautiful nymphs and supple young men, clad in leaves and with wreaths on their heads, who were waving hands in the direction of Cowrie Cove.

Welcoming the visitors were hotel resident manager **Daniele Vastolo** and HRD head, lovely **Sheila Ong Yiu Sepulveda.** Desmond and Tim were introduced, as they wove their way through the elegant crowd, by marketing director **Maggie Garcia** and communications manager **Neil Rumbaoa.**

The arrival of Cebu's new governor, **Gwendolyn Garcia,** caused quite a stir. Slim and pretty, Gwen has a regal stance that belies a tough adherence to principle and hard work. Beside her was **Dawn Roa,** Department of Tourism's regional director, who was in the limelight because of talks of DOT's transfer to Cebu.

Ethel Soliven Timbol held court in a balcony that gave her the best vantage point. She saw everyone who was coming in, or flitting out, and had a good view of the jetty where the Peace Philharmonic played classics and light classics. Best view, too, of the moon rise, the cue for the aquatic ballet performance to start.

There were several grand entrances. Eyes turned in the direction of **Michel** and **Amparito Lhuillier,** who was in blue-green satin and a queen's ransom in pearls. Also in aqua were **Teresing Mendezona** and **Irma Atillo.** They were whispering about their flight a few days later to Pamplona for the running of the bulls. If Hemingway had known them, his book would have had another set of heroines.

When it got quite sultry in the verandah, there was an air-conditioned area which was more than a refuge from the humidity. It had a buffet table groaning with Canadian oysters—succulent, thick and big. Other delights were the French lobsters and huge shrimps, which were fun to peel, and quite an assortment of seafood from all parts of the Visayas.

Hard as it was for us to tear ourselves from all the fun, we had to rush back to Cebu City to the hills of Maria Luisa Estate Park for a petit concert and dinner hosted by the Consul of Sweden in Cebu, **Jose Sala,** and his flaxen-haired wife, **Susan Montenegro Sala.**

Honorees were Chief Justice **Hilario Davide Jr.** and his wife, **Virginia Perez Davide,** as well as Ambassador of Germany to the Philippines **Herbert Jess** and **Micheline Jess.**

Performing were two of the Philippines' highly acclaimed pianists—**Ingrid Sala Santamaria** on Piano I, and **Reynaldo Reyes** on Piano II, who had just arrived from a triumphant concert tour of Thailand, Vietnam and South Korea.

The concert in Cebu was the start of the 2004 edition of their Romantic Piano Concerto Journey (initiated in 2001) and fully endorsed by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the Department of Interior and Local Government.

From Cebu, they were going to Cavite, then a series of performances in Manila.

Guests clustered around two pianos in the Sala home's lanai. Ingrid and Reynaldo introduced the pieces and gave the rationale for their "journey." They were off to a good start with the moderato movement from Rachmaninoff's "Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor."

It was followed by the adagio from Grieg's "Piano Concerto in A minor Op. 16"; and two movements—allegretto vivace and allegro marziale—from Liszt's "Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Flat major."

During the 15-minute intermission, guests sipped some wine, munched on delicious canapés, posed for photos, chatted with the artists and honorees, and talked about how nippy it could get at the altitude we were in.

The concert's highlight was Tchaikovsky's "Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Flat Minor," with all its brilliant movements. Take note: Allegro ma non troppo; Allegro con Spirito; Andante Semplice; and Allegro con Fuoco. So much "allegro" set the mood for the rest of the evening.

Among the prominent guests were Belgium's Consul in Cebu, **Enrique Benedicto,** and his wife **Helena;** British Consul **Moya Jackson** and **Tony Jackson; Paqui Aboitiz** and **Quina Melendez; Danny** and **Zeny Deen; Jesus** and **Rosebud Sala; Myrian Eckhart; Victorino** and **Pilar Cusi;** professor **Arni Mueller** and his pretty wife **Joy;** and **Sue Gray,** who baked a delicious cake drenched in aged rhum.

Cheling and **Susan Sala** were congratulated for the excellent food, most of it homemade. There was a tinge of nostalgia when the good-byes were made. Ambassador and Madame Jess were about to complete their tour of duty in the Philippines. They were giving a reception to say "farewell" on July 28 at their home in Makati. Quite a number of their Cebuano friends were expected to attend.

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TALK 'N TEXT and the San Juan Dental Chapter Serving Barangays Across the Nation

It's more than keeping us in touch...

Last July 25, 2004, the third dental mission of Alay Sa Barangay, the Talk 'N Text Partner ng Barangay sa Kabuhayan at Kalusugan program, was held in the Municipal Hall of Majayjay, Laguna from 9 am to 3 pm with over 300 participants.

Talk 'N Text Partner ng Barangay sa Kabuhayan at Kalusugan is a joint project of Talk 'N Text and the San Juan Dental Chapter which aims to service 10 locations in its initial phase, later going nationwide to reach the provinces up north and down south. As Partner sa Kabuhayan a free Talk 'N Text Partner Seminar on starting your own business to earn extra money will be conducted. This will offer the participants an alternative source of income. Dental services will also be provided to the community and Talk 'N Text subscribers under the Partner sa Kalusugan platform. Simultaneous on-ground seminars on oral health will be ongoing to help educate the community on improving over-all health.

The dental group will provide various treatments such as Oral Prophylaxis, Dental Extraction, Sealants, Fluoride Application, Restorative Treatment, and Oral Health Promotion free of charge.

New Talk 'N Text subscribers can avail of free dental consultation, free oral prophylaxis, free tooth filling or extraction with every SIM swap or purchase. Existing Talk 'N Text subscribers get free dental consultation and free tooth filling. Look for Talk 'N Text booths set-up for the SIM swapping activity.

These much needed services brought to our communities through the Talk 'N Text Partner ng Barangay sa Kabuhayan at Kalusugan program improves the quality of lives of hundred Filipinos who do not have access to proper healthcare. So to all barangay residents in San Juan; don't miss this chance to avail of free dental services from Talk 'N Text and the San Juan Dental Chapter. On August 8, 2004 they will be at Barangay St. Joseph Gym along Pinaglabanan, San Juan, Metro Manila.

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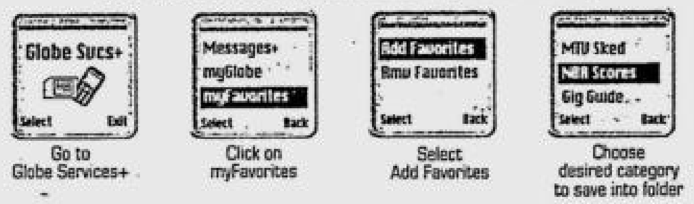
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NEWLYWEDS Raffy and Anna (née de Borja) Prats

PRATS-DE BORJA NUPTIALS

You've got (nasty) mail

Blind date sparks romance between warring e-mail correspondents

By Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor

NOT all love stories begin on the right note. In the case of Raffy Prats and Anna de Borja, it started with an exchange of nasty e-mail messages triggered off by a comment she made to an officemate that Prats was a snob.

The two were then working in separate affiliate units of Ayala Land at the Alabang Town Center (ATC) in Muntinlupa. De Borja was an operations assistant at the mall, while Prats was the manager of the Timezone branch at ATC.

"Communication is a two-way street," Prats said in one of his messages to her. The flurry of e-mail went on for some time until their officemates arranged a blind date for the "warring" couple at a reggae concert in the mall.

YOU'VE/ J2

Milestones

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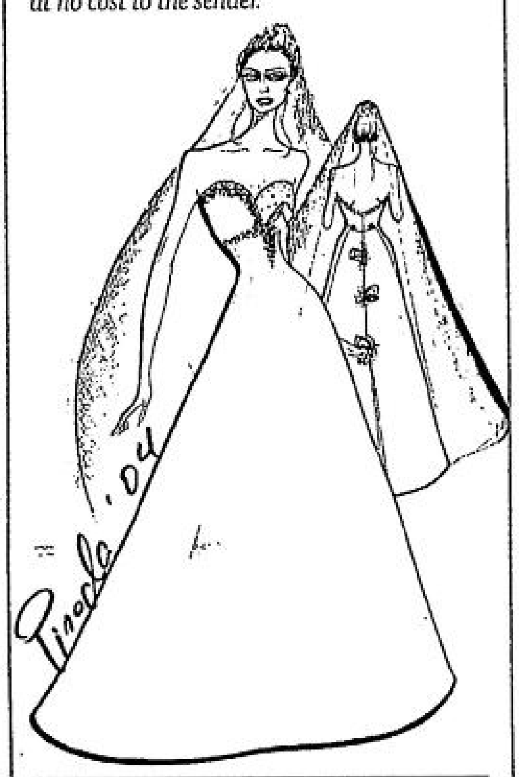


BARIN-REYES

Tinee Reyes, daughter of Judge and Ms **Wilfredo Reyes**, and **Dennis Barin**, son of Mr. and Ms **Antonio Barin**, will exchange vows Aug. 7 at the San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila.

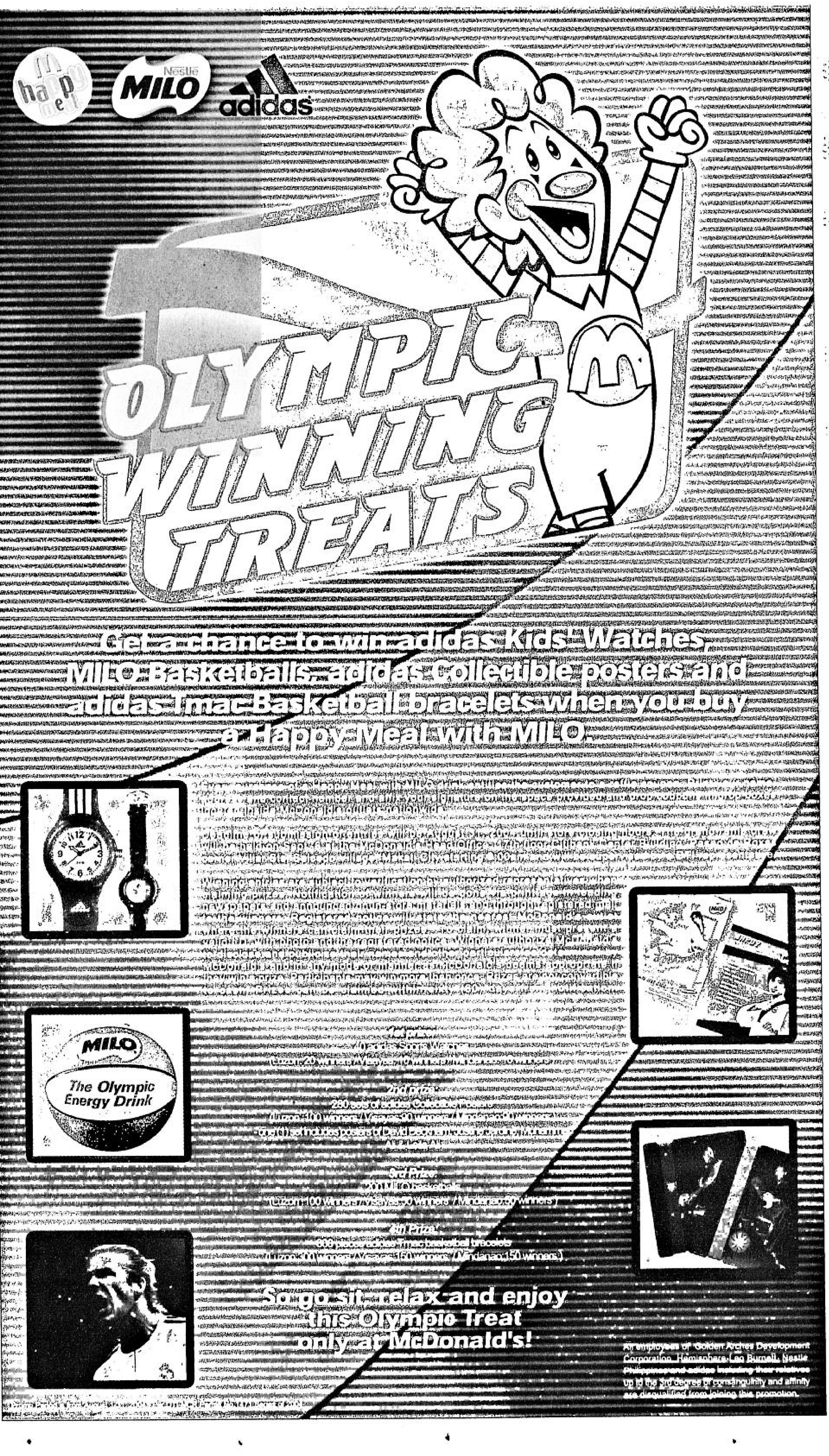
Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown in ivory bridal satin. The overlap bodice is mixed with gazar and horsehair and embellished with faux pearls, caviar beads and Swarovski crystals. It has a detachable twin-panel cathedral train held by handmade fresh bows. A 10-meter train of double-width illusion tulle held by crystal pins completes the ensemble.

The entourage will wear chiffon gown in sage green, olive and jade.

Reception will follow at Father Blanco's Garden, Intramuros, Manila.

JOYA-VELAZQUEZ

Joven S. Joya, son of **Ruben** and **Crispina (nee Santillan) Joya**, and **Joy J. Velasquez**, daughter of **Sergio** and **Elma Velasquez**, exchanged vows at the Imus Conservative Baptist Church in Imus, Cavite. Reception followed at the Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmariñas, Cavite.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WITH THE PRINCIPAL sponsors

You've got (nasty) mail

From page J1

Nasty turned to sweet instantly after their first date. While the courtship was going on, Prats was summoned by his boss to tell him that the company was planning to relocate to Cebu.

It was a tempting offer and a good career move, but he mustered the courage to turn down the offer. "Sir, I'm in love," he sheepishly but firmly told his boss.

When De Borja found out what Prats did, she realized he was truly in love win her. They became engaged soon after, the formal proposal made at his family's rest house in Tali Beach in Batangas.

The couple finally exchanged "I dos" last March 28 at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park. With the help of Rita Neri of The Wedding Store, De Borja's wish for an Asian fusion theme was perfectly executed. Robert Blancaflor of 1816 Flowers decorated the church pews with tall arrangements of twigs and orchids. The Japanese-inspired cake designed by Penk Ching of Pastry Bin had bamboo and crane trimmings. Paul Cabral designed the bridal gown. Patrick Rosas did the bride's hair and makeup.

Anna, 25, is the only daughter of noted lawyer Pablo de Borja and real estate broker Marilou de Borja. She attended Woodrose School and De La Salle University. Now resigned from Ayala Land, she has started a small bag-manufacturing business.

Ten years her senior, Raffy, 35, is the only boy among four children of businesswoman Helen Prats and the late Rafael Prats Sr. He went to Colegio San Agustin and University of the Philippines in Diliman. He got his masters in business administration from the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). He is at present division manager of Ayala Land Inc.

The five-course sit-down dinner reception was held at the Manila Polo Club. Ed Pasamba's 12-piece orchestra played romantic dinner music. Later, the saucy Sabor Latino got everybody in a dancing mood.

The newlyweds opened the dance to the tune of Frank Sinatra's classic "Something Stupid," quite appropriate for a couple whose romance started with some crazy e-mail.

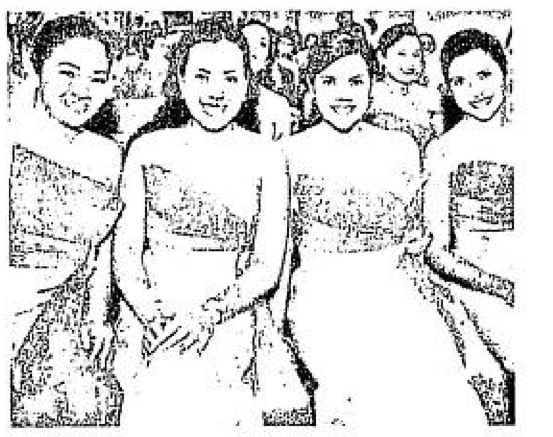
But all's well that ends beautifully in a promise of love that will keep them blissfully together as man and wife.

THE NEWLYWEDS and the bride's father, lawyer Pablo de Borja (standing), with Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima, Senate President Franklin Drilon and Mila Drilon

BRIDE Anna with mom Marilou de Borja

WITH AYALA Land executives Tess Palma and Winnie Nazareth and Timezone Australia chair Malcom Steinberg

WITH PALS (clockwise, from top left) Tessa Dragon, Crisel Madara, Jill Gerodias, Regina Filamor, Tessie Marasigan, Nicole Vergara and Jennifer Jose



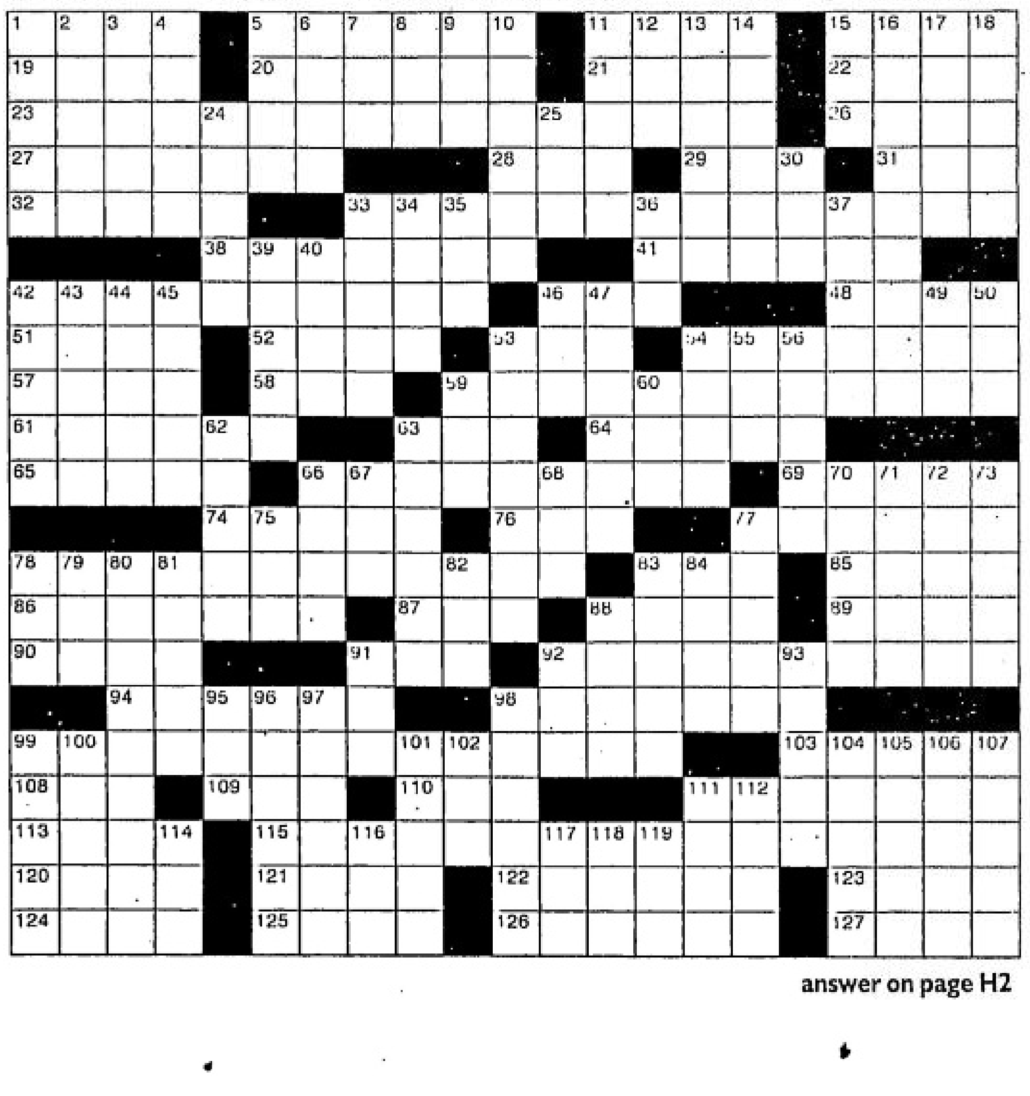
MAID of honor Carla Fragante and secondary sponsors Jenny Jose, Gayet Urrutia and Marissa Garcia

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo IMMORTALITY

ACROSS
1 Molt
5 Eerie familiarity
11 Parks on a bus
15 Partly open
19 Gateway Arch architect Saarinen
20 Less tense
21 Large-scale
22 Doozie
23 Old bowlers never die, they just —
26 ". . . for — care!"
27 Vine-grower's frame
28 Yalie
29 — sequitur
31 Swimmer Thorpe
32 Believer in sacred cows
33 Old guitarists never die, they just —
38 Austere
41 Obis, e.g.
42 Old cowboys never die, they just —
46 Ton divs.
48 Helper
51 Actor Epps
52 Hold back
53 "— Haw"
54 Doughboy
57 Adidas rival
58 With 100 Down, "The Velvet Fog"
59 Old tanners never die, they just —
61 Glistens
63 Sorority letter
64 Futile
65 "I — Letter to My Love" (1981 film)
66 Old moonshiners never die, they just —
69 Josh
74 Royal crown
76 Mao — -tung
77 Eats like a pig
78 Old librarians never die, they just —
83 VCR maker
85 Woes
86 From the start
87 Abby's twin
88 Genuine
89 Out patient's state?
90 Stead
91 SFPD figure
92 Old golfers never die, they just —
94 Maturation
98 Japanese massage that uses acupressure
99 Old photographers never die, they just —
103 Less common
108 Slew
109 Tin organ?
110 Glacial
111 Scholarly world
113 Sills solo
115 Old accountants never die, they just —
120 Huge-screen theater
121 Tom or Jerry, e.g.
122 "Animal Farm" novelist
123 Dweeb
124 Actress Russo
125 Med. plans
126 Thrust
127 Fleecy females

DOWN
1 They bite
2 Painter Rousseau
3 Actress Eve
4 "That — explain it"
5 Nero's 552
6 Many millennia
7 Whit
8 Fire residue
9 Winner's sign
10 Goad
11 Knot anew
12 Choose
13 Yellow-brown
14 Breadthwise
15 Pie — mode
16 16th-century pope
17 Poe's middle name
18 Wishing undone
24 Luxurious
25 Einstein's birthplace
30 Utmost degree
33 Oven setting
34 Berkshire school
35 Hep dude
36 Battleship abbr.
37 Total up anew
39 Salon waves
40 Busy as —
42 Musical disks
43 Writer Zola
44 Occupied
45 Foot the bill
46 Luau wear
47 Elton John's "— and the Jets"
49 Study
50 Bit of work
53 Astros' home
54 Psyche
55 Circus cries
56 Deceive, in a way
59 Fissure
60 "My mama done — me . . ."
62 British pal
63 Pekoe pouch
66 Actress Madeline
67 Before
68 "For shame!"
70 "All My Children" siren
71 Beaming
72 City on the Alabama
73 Piece of Lamb
75 "Am — blame?"
77 Gusts
78 Animation frame
79 Chou En- —
80 Portland resident
81 Drink noisily
82 Toronto's prov.
83 Label differently
84 Suffragist Carrie Chapman —
88 Destroy
91 That girl
92 Upsilon follower
93 Bucolic
95 Keats work
96 Fortune
97 Den, often
98 Whale's vertical rise out of the water
99 Flight unit
100 See 58 Across
101 Mortgage claims
102 Fall mo.
104 Proverb
105 Freshen
106 Roast host
107 Stinks
111 Up to it
112 Ring up
114 Pink-slip
116 Michigan canals
117 Blow it
118 — Jima
119 Not Dem.



answer on page H2

Waiting for husband's apology

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

Two years ago, I found out my husband was having an affair with his former high school classmate. She is separated and has three children. He denied the affair and maintained they were just friends.

We had been married 10 years so I was hurt and felt I didn't deserve his infidelity. I complained to my in-laws but they didn't believe me. My mother felt pity for me and told me to leave my husband and live with her. I stayed, however, and decided to fight for my marriage for the sake of our children.

I must admit that my husband has since then been very attentive and loving and avoids that woman. Still, I feel I have lost my love and respect for him. Two things are keeping me from completely forgiving him: I often see that woman in the places I go to and, up to now, my husband has not apologized for what he's done.

CAMILLA

Treating him like he is guilty all this time might not do your marriage good. I am reminded of the story of a husband who was constantly accused of infidelity by his wife. In reality, though, he was faithful to her. When he could no longer stand her accusation, he deliberately had an affair so that the great energy his wife spent on her accusations would not go to waste. He continued to deny being unfaithful, however, and he did not find that difficult since he had a lot of practice.

The story might be apocryphal but not improbable.

In any case, if your husband could deny the affair, then you probably "caught" him in an ambiguous rather than compromising situation. And if that were the case, then it could only justify suspicion, not conviction. Your husband deserves the benefit of the doubt and an end to your accusation.

If you still find it difficult to give him that benefit, then you should look harder at yourself. It could be that you don't simply suspect he had been unfaithful; it could be you are also convinced he had the motive to be unfaithful.

If, say, you had done nothing despite his repeated complaints that you're overweight, then you might feel certain that he has good reason to be unfaithful when a physically attractive woman and a welcoming attitude comes his way. It's the same when he had been complaining (even indirectly) that you'd become a bore—and then he met a woman with interesting ideas, an impressive talent, or an intriguing status.

Am I saying that a wife should be a superwoman—taking care of children and home, and keeping physically and psychologically attractive, too? No, all I'm saying is that she should try her darn best to be. What can be achieved always has a limit, which is why it is honest intentions and one's best effort that count most in a marriage.

That brings us to your husband's apology or lack of it. An apology is an admission of guilt. If, as he maintains, he did not have an affair, then it's unreasonable to expect him to apologize.

What he might have been guilty of, however, is thoughtlessness by allowing himself to be in an ambiguous situation that aroused your worst suspicions and plunged you into two years of moroseness. For that you could ask him to apologize.

But, then, maybe he already had, or continues to do so? Remember that he has since avoided that woman and has been extra attentive and loving. That could be his way of saying that he is not being thoughtless anymore. And that looks to me like his best effort at an apology. Shouldn't it count for a lot?

As for that woman, she is not your problem. If she is out to vamp a husband out of his marriage, let the wife whose spouse is no longer attentive and loving worry about the threat she poses.

E-mail titadulce2003@yahoo.com or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO, Makati City, or PDI office.

Milestones

TEDDY-JOCSON

John Vincent S. Teddy, son of **Johnny** and **Remedios Teddy**, and **Ma. Christina A. Jocson**, daughter of **Edwin** and **Rebecca Jocson**, tied the knot recently. Fr. **Noel Pansaran** celebrated the Mass at the Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish Church, Bacolod City. Reception followed at the La Proa Ballroom, L'Fisher Hotel, Bacolod City. The bride's gown was made by **Lourdes Lipa** while flowers were arranged by **Manuel Sambilla**.

NAKAJIMA-CORTEZ

Hideki Nakajima, son of **Susumu** and **Keiko Nakajima**, and **Rhea Cortez**, daughter of **Zosimo Jr.** and **Virginia Cortez**, will tie the knot Aug. 14 at the San Antonio de Padua Parish Church, Agdao, Davao City. Reception will follow at the Waterfront Insular Hotel Davao.

The Mass will be officiated by Fr. **Emmanuel "Bong" M. Gonzaga. Nicolas "Tata" S. Soriano** will coordinate the event.

BULAWAN-CRUZ

Jacinto Bulawan Jr., son of Mr. and Ms **Jacinto Bulawan, Sr.**, and **Ligaya Cruz**, daughter of Mr. and Ms Thompson Cruz, tied the knot recently at the Holy Family Parish Church, Cabancalan, Mandaue City.

Fr. **Benjamin Trazo** officiated at the wedding. Reception followed at the Sta. Lucia Clubhouse, Consolacion, Cebu.

AQUINO-DIMAPILIS

Avel T. Aquino, son of **Paulino** (deceased) and **Anicita Aquino**, and **Thèlma V. Dimapilis**, daughter of **Virgilio** and **Lolita Dimapilis**, will exchange vows Aug. 8 at the Manila Cathedral, Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at Villa Immaculada, also in Intramuros.

Paul Rex Mateo of The Wedding Day designed and executed the gowns of the bride and her entourage.

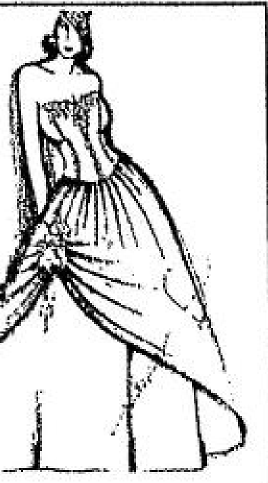
BARROQUILLO-ROBIN

Jehlan Khafe Barroquillo, son of engineer and Ms **Jerome Jules Barroquillo**, married recently **Tonnette Robin**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Antonio Robin** at the Redemptorist Parish Church, Mango Avenue, Cebu City.

Fr. **Hugh O'Donoghue** officiated at the wedding. Reception followed at the Sarrosa International Hotel, Mabolo, Cebu City.

OXEMER DEBUT

Jhoana Oxemer, daughter of **Imelda "Mel" Oxemer**, will celebrate her 18th birthday Aug. 14 at the Westin Philippine Plaza. The debutante will wear a liquid organza gown accented with cascading beads and lace appliqué design by Boutique Plantasy.



NAVARRO-RAGAZA

Christopher Navarro, son of Mr. and Ms **Marcos Navarro**, married recently **Regina Ragaza**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Edgar Baraza**, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Church, Minglanilla, Cebu. Fr. **Benjamin Cortes** and Fr. **Phil Tumulak** officiated the wedding.

Reception followed at the bride's residence in Tuyan, Naga, Cebu.

TECSON-DABALOS

Orville Tecson, son of Dr. **Erlinda Ursales vda. de Tecson**, married recently **Aime Dabalos**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Vergelio Dabalos**, at the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral Parish Church, Cebu.

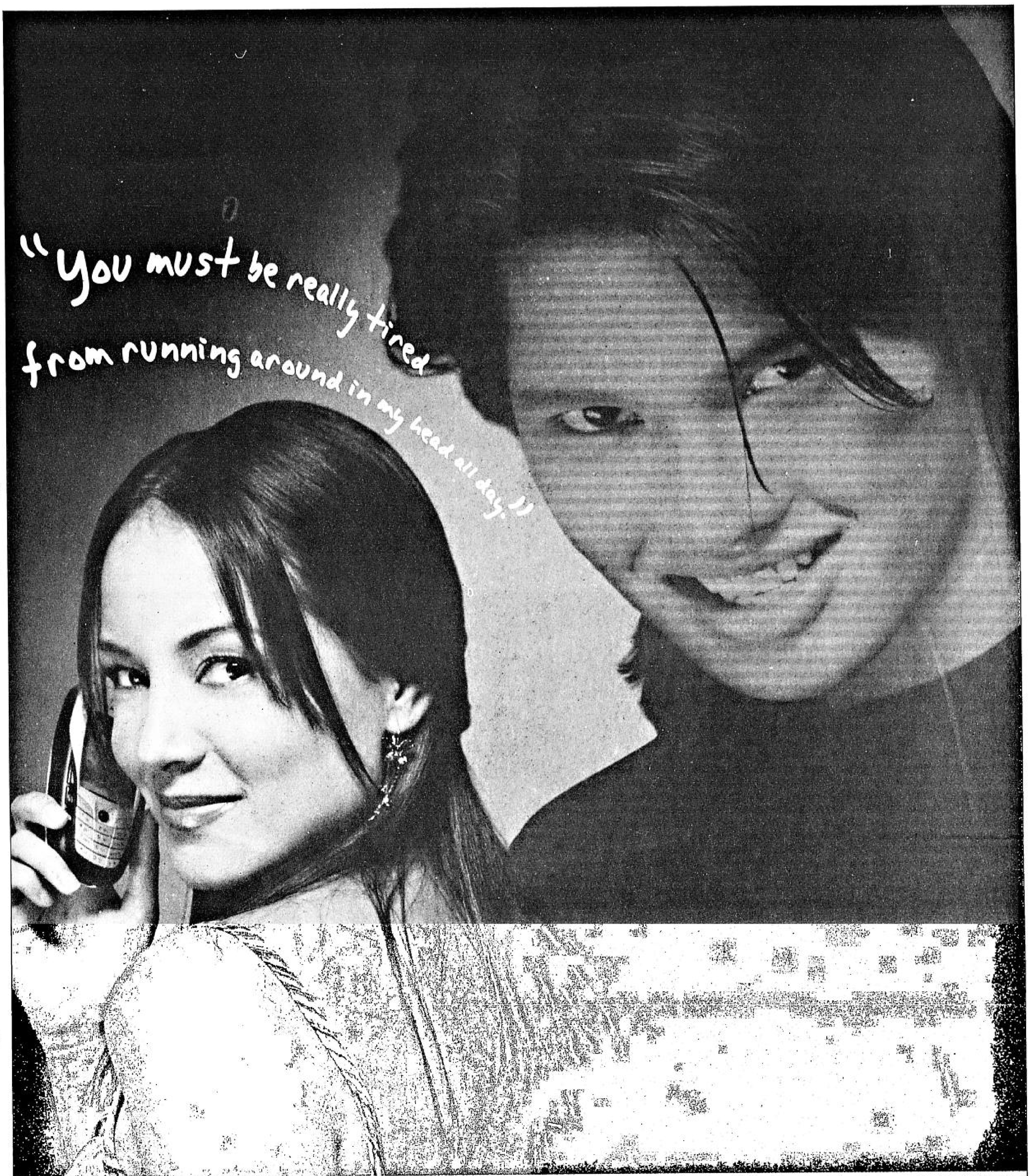
Fr. **Celso Magbanua** officiated at the wedding. Reception followed at the Royal Concourse.

VARGAS DEBUT

Meliza Lozano-Vargas, daughter of **Wilfredo** and **Ma. Teresa Vargas**, will mark her 18th birthday on Aug. 2. The celebration will be held at The Farm, BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City.

The debutante is a second year student of the Colegio de San Juan de Letran. Her gown was designed and executed by **Bernice Cruz**.

SIYEMPRE NAMAN, JOHN! FAVORITE KASI NG MGA BATA ANG PUREFOODS TENDER JUICY HOTDOG AT ALAM NILA, PAG HINDI TENDER JUICY, TALAGANG 'DI NA MALOLOKO ANG MGA ANAK NATIN.
NYEK! MARSHA! WALA NANG HOTDOG ?!?
Kids can Tell!
PUREFOODS
Tender Juicy


"You must be really tired from running around in my head all day."

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TO SEND A CALLER RINGTUNE TO A FRIEND Text RING GIFT <Ring ID> <Friend's Cellphone Number> to 286
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RING ID	TITLE	ENDORSER
100836	Car Make Over	Derek
100837	Driving Lesson	Derek
100838	Old School	Rosanne
100839	One on One	Rosanne
100840	Lost A Bet	Bianca
100841	Working Out	Bianca
100842	Shopping or Yoga?	Bianca / Rosanne
100843	Double Date	Bianca / Rosanne
100846	I Need My Fix	Borgy
100847	I'm Hooked	Borgy
100851	Late for the Party	Derek / Tim
100852	What a Drag	Derek / Tim
100853	Wild Party	Tim
100854	Surprise	Tim

TITLE	RING ID	TITLE	RING ID
Iris	100249	House party	100466
Unwell	100439	Turbulescense	100470
Never let you go	100434	Popular scene	100576
Come away with me	100241	Acid etched	100582
Just like a pill	100251	Breakneck speed	100583
I'm a slave 4 u	100248	Disturbed	100584
Nice to know you	100252	Razor blade	100590
Teenage dirtbag	100255	Severely twisted	100591
Bent	100240	Age of love 1	100748
Mad season	100432	Future is 1	100751
Tribal_afro_looplstic	100309	Holding onto nothing 1	100753
Bugaboo	100301	Lost forever 2	100756
Groovyjames_the_majordomo	100304	Mahadeva 1	100757
Heads_will_roll_and_rock	100305	Scaramanga 2	100760
Pulsing_pulsing_123	100306	Seduction 1	100761
Sexy_bellydancer	100307	Spaced out	100764
Dance-01-bopping groove	100035	The milan voyage	100765
Electronica-02-elastic	100186	Waking up the sun 1	100766
Dance-04-energetic	100266	Gun - machine - m16 - burst	100064
Dance-05-funky groove	100267	44 Magnum revolver	100347
Dance-06-hip groove	100268	Helicopter	100353
Electronica-01-dark	100269	Jet ski	100454
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HOW to keep our coastlines clean: That is a major problem.

Brainstorming on keeping beaches safe and clean

By Volt Contreras

CAN the country protect yet still make the most of its much-advertised world-class beaches? Can these scenic places earn tourism dollars while preserving their pristine conditions? Can the famous Boracay Island, for example, be spared from overcrowding without sacrificing economic opportunities?

Although the search for answers can be, well, as tough as cleaning up Manila Bay, a recent multisectoral forum sponsored by the World Bank sought fresh ideas.

Held most fittingly in Boracay, Aklan, the first international workshop on the Beach EcoWatch Program gathered about a hundred marine life experts, green advocates, resort owners, government regulators and local officials, financing executives, and the media.

Proposals ranged from multimillion-peso sewage treatment plants to publicity gimmicks like then Health Secretary Juan Flavier's anti-smoking "Yosi Kadiri" campaign.

Or may be newspapers can report on coastline water quality just as they give daily weather reports.

Supported by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Beach

BRAINSTORMING/ K3

Dear Ate,
I have a lot of secrets and I want to share them with you. I think I'm in love again. Hindi kay mister, love ko na yun dati pa. Iba ito. Iba siya. Mas pinasarap niya ang buhay ko.

PORK PASTEL

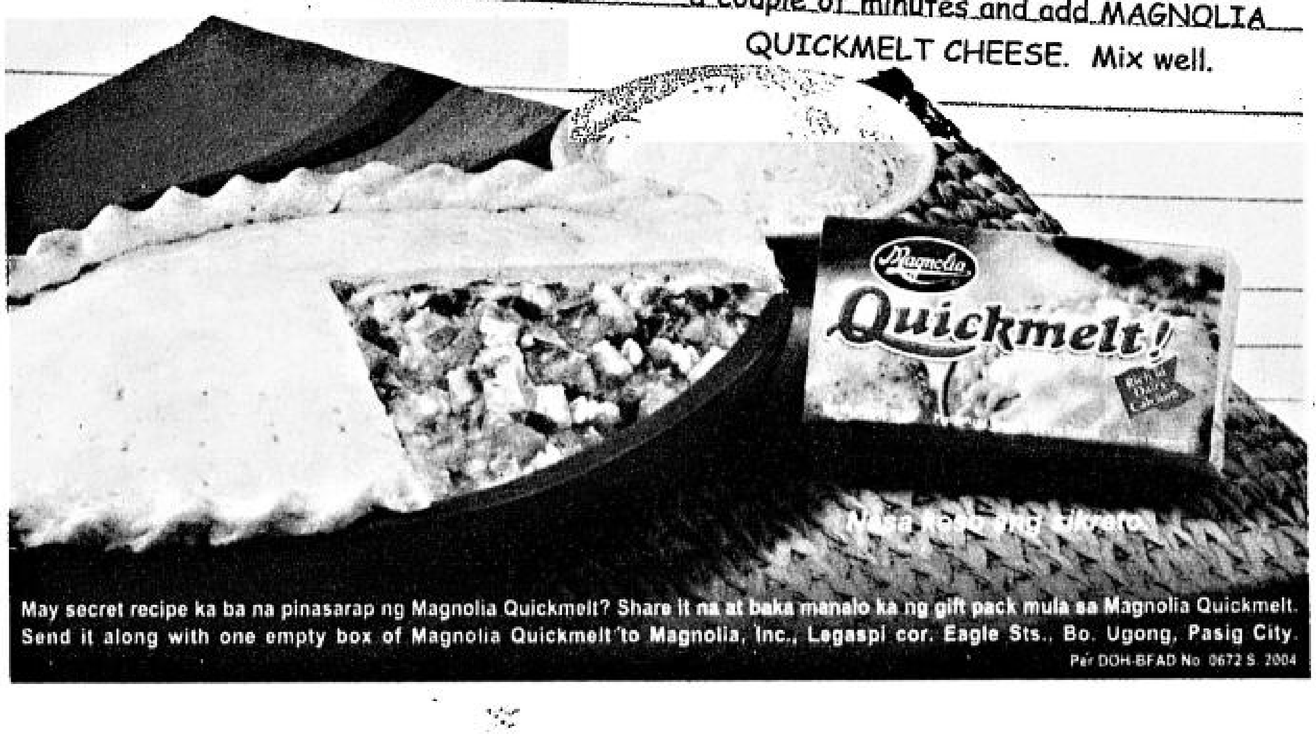
CRUST:
4 cups All purpose flour
1 tbsp. Sugar
1 tsp. Fine salt
1 tsp. Baking powder
1 cup Bakers Best Margarine, cut into small pieces
1/2 cup Cold water

Procedure: Mix flour, sugar, salt and baking powder. Cut margarine and mix to form pea size crumbs. Sprinkle water a tablespoon at a time and mix to form a ball. Refrigerate for one hour or freeze for 30 minutes. Roll out into a thin sheet. Rolling should be stiff to get a good result and roll in between two sheets of wax paper. Use to cover pastel placed in a baking dish. Prick crust with a fork to allow air to pass and prevent ballooning of crust. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden in color.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

FILLING:
1/4 cup Dari Crème Classic Margarine
1 tbsp. Minced garlic
1/2 cup Chopped onions
1 cup Red and green bell peppers, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Chorizo Bilbao, sliced
1/2 kilo Monterey Pork Kasim (shoulder) menudo cut
1 cup Potatoes, sliced into cubes
1 cup Carrots, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Vienna Tidbits
1/2 cup MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE, grated
3 to 4 cups water

Procedure: Melt margarine in a saucepan. Saute garlic and onions. Add bell peppers, chorizo and pork kasim. Cook until pork changes in color. Pour in water and broth of Vienna tidbits. Cover and let boil. Allow to simmer and keep covered until meat is tender. Add potatoes and cook until tender. Stir in carrots and Vienna tidbits. Cook for a couple of minutes and add MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE. Mix well.



May secret recipe ka ba na pinasarap ng Magnolia Quickmelt? Share it na at baka manalo ka ng gift pack mula sa Magnolia Quickmelt. Send it along with one empty box of Magnolia Quickmelt to Magnolia, Inc., Legaspi cor. Eagle Sts., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City.
Per DOH-BFAD No. 0672 S. 2004

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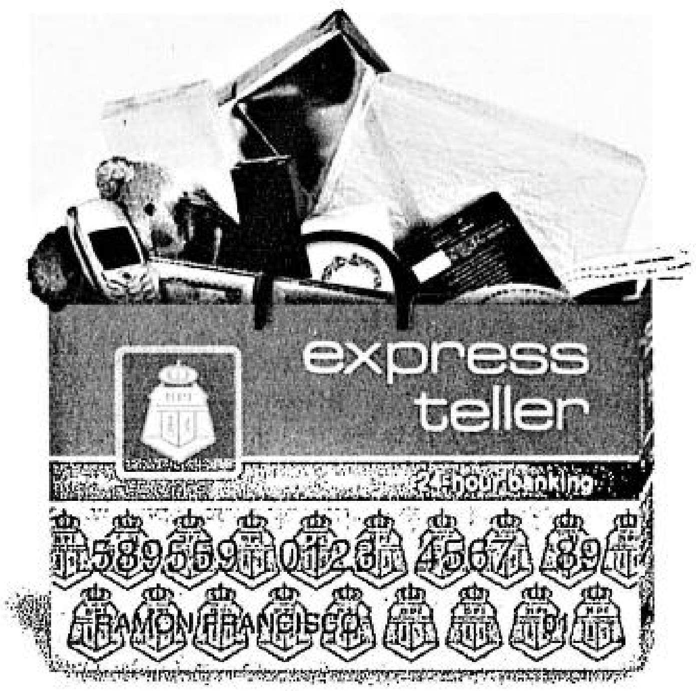

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How to get to Sesame Street

By Anna Carissa C. Villacorta
Contributor

> Yes, there's a theme park in the middle of empty roads and fields in Pennsylvania where we can play with Big Bird, Cookie Monster and our other dear childhood friends

AT PORT Authority in New York, take the NJ Transit Bus to Trenton, New Jersey. Then take the Septa bus to Langhorne, Philadelphia. Don't look for any Sesame Street billboards or signs to give you direction. Just look out at the fields and trees, and trust that the bus driver will bring you there eventually. This trip of uncertainty will last about 1.5 hours.

Then, as if to save you, a splash of color will appear on the horizon. You get off the bus and notice the huge—but packed—parking lot with Big Bird and Oscar parking posts. Turn to your right and you will see toddlers with Ernie and Bert character balloons tied to their wrists. You are approaching Sesame Place.

My *Kuya* Carlo and I got copies of the park's map as we entered this amusement park we never even knew existed. Its size reminded us of Enchanted Kingdom. Not two steps later, it looked more like Splash Island because the guests (toddlers and mommies and daddies) were all wet in their suits.

Visual spectacle

Yes, it's a water theme park for kids. We were the oldest kids there, with no parents holding our hands. But we weren't the least bit disturbed by that.

This novel place was proving to be so much more than any other theme park we'd seen. Tree sculptures of the Sesame Street characters, colorful rides and merchandise booths selling delightful balloons, stuffed toys and shirts—for these twentysomethings, it was a whirling visual spectacle.

The climax was sighting real Sesame Street characters when we watched the Big Bird and Company Musical Revue. It was delightful to see the whole crew singing and dancing with Big Bird. Elmo, Grover, Cookie Monster, Ernie and Bert were so amusing, especially in their version of "Hip to Be Square." They truly put on a great show. Everything I saw just made me giggle like a little girl again.

After the show, and with huge smiles on our faces, *Kuya* and I then proceeded to a live taping of a Sesame Street show—Elmo's World. When I was 6 years old, I saw a taping of "Batibot." I remember crying when I saw Pong Pagong take his head off and out came a man's head. Now I'm 24, but my excitement was undiminished.

Kuya and I later gallivanted around the whole park to see more water rides and pools, a mini maze, mini playground, the huge merchandise store and thematic cafeteria. We got shirts, stuffed toys, key chains and balloons.

We concluded the day with a purchase of a Bert balloon and a ringside view of the great character parade. (We could not miss the bus that would bring us back to the familiar streets of New York. There was no other way home.)

How much did we spend? Adult admission to the park is $37.95. However, there's what is called Elmo's Passport, which entitles you to get two days of fun for the price of one. There's also a "Sunny Day Guarantee." If it rains continuously on the day of your visit for an hour or more, Sesame Place will give you a free ticket to come back to the park another day during the year's operating season. Now, doesn't that make you sing, "Sunny Day... Everything's A-OK?"

C IS for Cookie monster—that's good enough for me!

Food is no worry. The park gives families a chance to make reservations for a breakfast or dinner buffet featuring appearances by Big Bird and his neighborhood friends.

Quite a trip

At my age, it feels strange to be writing about an amusement park. However, the place we went to was so great it would be a crime not to let other people—especially kids—know about it.

Besides, I do love Sesame Street, as do many others who grew up with it. I also didn't need to force my brother to come with me, not only because it was going to be my birthday soon, but because this was actually an exciting place to check out.

When he and I heard that Sesame Place existed, we just had to take the trek. That it was the only Sesame Place in the whole of the US, and that it was commuting distance from NY, convinced us all the more that we had to do it. We did all the research and made it there without a car.

And heck, it was quite a trip since it was in the middle of nowhere, or more specifically, in the middle of empty roads and fields in Pennsylvania. But it's there.

Having had so much fun with my brother that day, I felt I had to tell everyone, especially kids in the Philippines, that this wonderful theme park exists.

Sesame Place does not seem to advertise itself the way other world-famous theme parks do. We never saw any TV commercials nor heard any jingles on the radio about Sesame Place. No huge Disney stores like the one on Fifth Avenue or the Warner Brothers shops in Makati. There weren't even road signs going there!

On the other hand, it's probably a place that doesn't need marketing at all. The name, concept and the reality that such a happy and surreal place as depicted on the popular TV show exists are enough to pull people in. Proof: The park was packed!

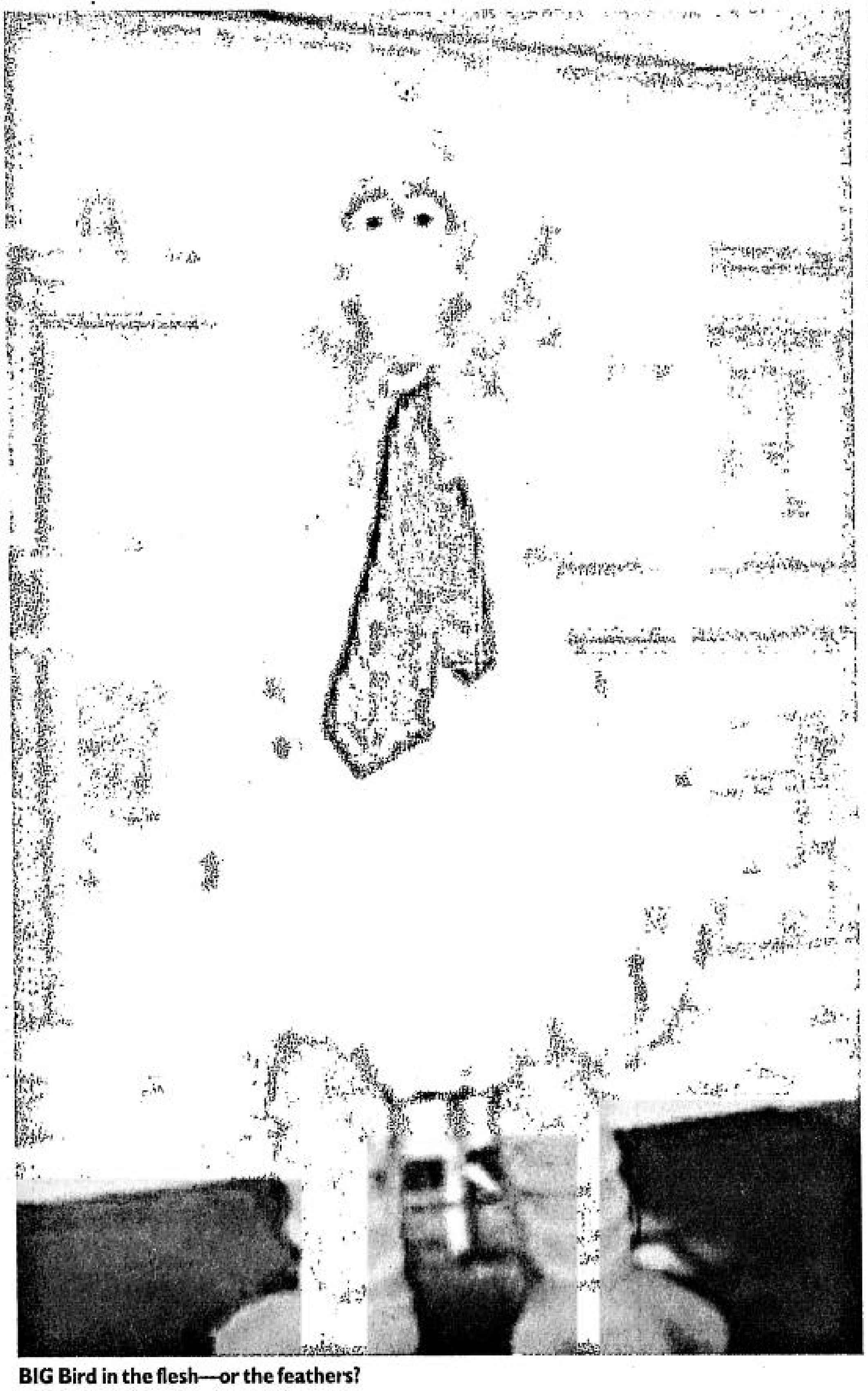
But who knew you could give Elmo a big hug? And that he could actually do somersaults? We didn't. And although I hadn't seen as many happy toddlers in my life before coming to this park, I guarantee that this place is not just for kids.

When our childhood dreams and wish lists included Disneyland, we just didn't know of Sesame Place. Who would rather see Goofy when all we did every afternoon when we were kids was sing, "Can you tell me how to get... how to get to Sesame Street?"

Sesame Place is for everyone who wondered, "How do you really get to Sesame Street?" Had I learned the map when I was 12, my dearest wish would have been not to see Mickey and Donald but Ernie and Cookie Monster.

Well, I guess 12 years later is not too late.

Visit www.sesameplace.com
E-mail the author at cvillacorta@mindspring.com


BIG Bird in the flesh—or the feathers?

THEY gave a spectacular show. Elmo made several somersaults to the delight of the audience. And Ernie just kept on making his trademark laugh (heeheehee)

PRECIOUS photo taken within the 120 seconds that Bert was tied to my wrist. Not long after, we said bye-bye as the balloon (and *Kuya's* $7) flew into thin air.

Brainstorming on keeping beaches safe and clean

BEACHES are in danger of sewage contamination.

From page K1

EcoWatch Program calls on government, private sector, and civil society to take bigger roles in improving the country's beaches and coastlines.

First step

The workshop was seen as the first step in increasing public awareness of water pollution and related issues, and designing plans and securing funds for EcoWatch-inspired pilot projects on selected beaches.

World Bank senior environmental engineer Jitendra Shah said available technologies should be tapped for treating sewage, a major, if not the chief, cause of beach contamination.

Sludge and human waste contained in household septic tanks in coastal communities can seep through soil and contaminate the beach and local water supply.

"Sanitation must be funded or people will be paying later in terms of lost tourism, health problems and damaged environment," Shah said, noting the wide "investment gap" in the country between private water supply and sewage treatment facilities.

Filipino consumers "only want to pay for the water supply but not for sanitation," said Shah, principal author of the Philippines Environment Monitor, a series of WB publications on the country's air and water quality and solid waste management.

Risk of bacterial growth

Other speakers also warned about the possibility of coliform bacteria proliferation in popular local beaches. In 1977, when word went out that Boracay had coliform infestation, the island suffered a 60-percent drop in tourist arrivals.

Boracay had since installed a potable water supply system, a sewage treatment plant, and solid waste disposal system. Run by the Philippine Tourism Authority, they were funded through a Japanese loan.

Experts got together for the World Bank-sponsored first international workshop on the Beach EcoWatch Program to find ways to keep coastal areas healthy

Shah said local communities should be made to see that sand and surf represent a viable business opportunity. People might not make the effort to keep beaches clean if there's no money in it, he said.

Foreign resource speakers shared best practices in beach management in South Africa, Brazil, and Hawaii, United States.

South African conservationist Alison Kelly spoke about the Blue Flag, something like the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) certification, that local governments could apply for.

Launched in France in 1985, Blue Flag is an annual international award for beaches that meet its high standards in safety, amenities, cleanliness and environmental soundness.

A Blue Flag will put a beach in the rank of the finest destinations, chosen by travelers who do not mind the cost of a safe, worry-free swim.

Monica Costa of the oceanography department of the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco in Brazil, said her government issued "weekly updates" on the water quality of most of Brazil's 2,100 beaches on the Atlantic side.

Municipal governments were responsible for water sampling and testing, though the state government (the Brazilian Federation has 26 states) can do the job if local units do not have funds and technical know-how.

Athline Clark, special projects manager of the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources, said the state government would give up tourism revenues to save a marine ecosystem.

Nationwide testing

Director Julian Amador of the Environment Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said his office was testing the water conditions of 57 bathing beaches in the country this year.

But he said "initial findings" of hazardous water quality would not be made public until year-end to give local governments and resort owners the opportunity to address the problem.

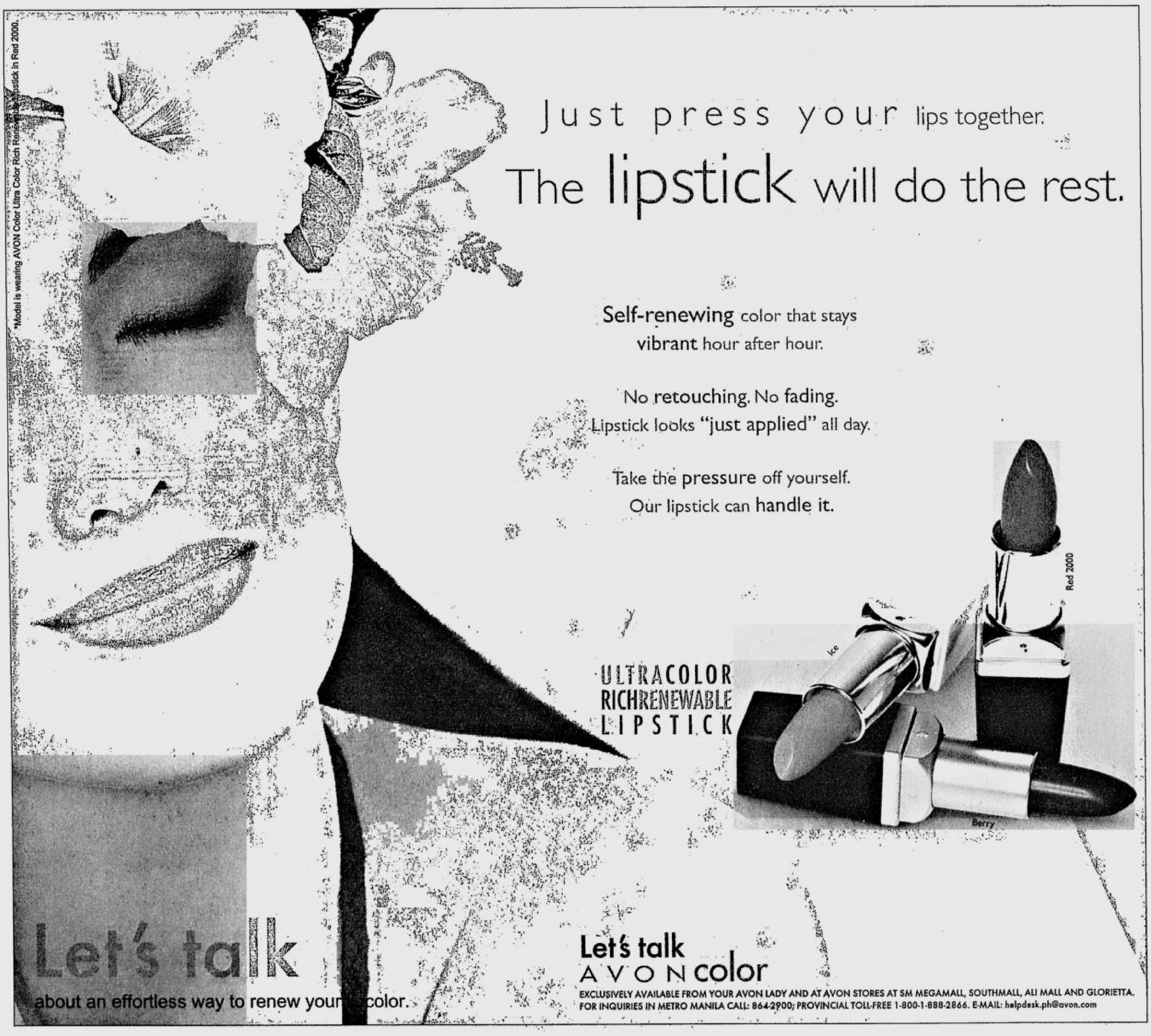
Several town mayors and local officials seemed very receptive to the ideas but raised doubts if they would have the resources to implement the proposals.

"Our eco-tourism programs and visions are already there," Dumaguete City Mayor Agustin Perdices told the INQUIRER. "But [in] a small city like mine... there are many concerns vying for our limited funds."

Government banks might extend loans, but local government units were required to use their Internal Revenue Allotments (LGUs' share in the national tax collection) as collateral, he said. Perdices addressed his complaint to representatives of the LandBank and Development Bank of the Philippines.

Shah said indicators of the success of the Beach EcoWatch program could be as simple as having more trash receptacles along beaches, increased investments in sewage treatment plants, and environmental concerns becoming a national passion.

GOLF courses uneasily share scarce water with beach resorts.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MARS provides booking management, schedule and seat inventory control, fare formulation and ticketing. MACS lets the carrier check in customers swiftly and efficiently, manage baggage handling prior to take-off, streamline airport procedures and improve productivity.

Kuwait Airways has operated scheduled passenger and cargo services for more than 50 years. Today the airline serves 40-plus cities in Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia and America, and more than 2.3 million people used its services last year.

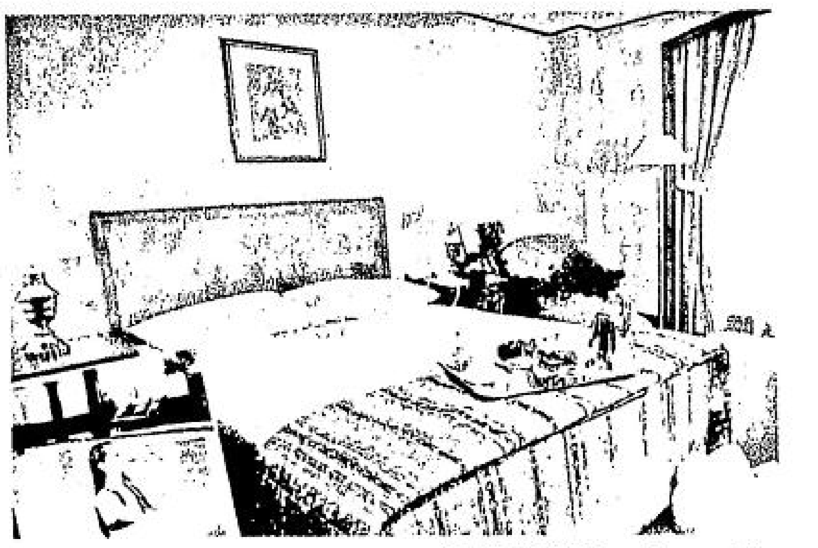
Mercator airline customers today are: Air Algérie, Air Malawi, Air Malta, Air New Zealand, Air Niugini, Air Pacific, Air Tahiti Nui, Air Zimbabwe, Avianca, bmi, British Airways, Emirates, Jet Airways, Kenya Airways, Kuwait Airways, Olympic, Philippine Airlines, Qantas, Royal Air Maroc, Royal Brunei, Singapore Airlines Cargo, SriLankan, TACA, Varig, Virgin Atlantic and Yemenia.

Opulent pampering

RICHMONDE Hotel offers the Affordable Opulence Package. For P4,000++, two persons can spend a night in a deluxe room (with a chance to upgrade to a junior suite whenever available), enjoy a filling buffet breakfast at the Grill or a set American breakfast served in the room, and avail of either a soothing aromatherapy or Swedish massage or a hair and body care package courtesy of Head Zone, Richmonde's beauty salon.

Guests may also enjoy the complementary use of Richmonde's Health Club facilities such as the gym, steam and sauna rooms, and indoor pool. They also get two vouchers for an hour's free use of the Health Club valid on the next visit, plus a special Health and Wellness gift. In addition, up to 30-percent discounts on all services are offered at Cora's Derm Center.

The package is available until Nov. 30 for local residents and expatriates with ACR. Call 6387777 local 3703 and 3704.



AFFORDABLE opulence at the Richmonde Hotel

Premium golf packages

HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field, the only triple-A resort in northern Luzon, makes you enjoy your choice of golf courses at the Mimosa Golf at Clark Field and Royal Northwoods in Bulacan.

Only 90-km away from Manila, the Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field offers these packages: Package 1—play golf Mondays to Fridays for P3,046+ per person or P2,928+ per person. Package 2—play golf on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays for P3,955+ or P3,837+ per person.

The package, valid until December, includes overnight stay in a standard room, single or twin sharing at the HIRCF, one round of golf, 18-holes and buffet breakfast.

Transportation and rates for Junior Suites and Holiday Villas are also available, good for two to four golfers.

Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field is on Mimosa Road Mimosa Leisure Estate, Clark Field, Pampanga. Call 8451888 or (045) 5998000. Visit www.holiday-inn.com.

Boracay's best vantage point

SEAWIND Resort's prime location makes it the best vantage point from which to experience Boracay. Of all the resorts on the island, it has the widest beachfront and the finest beach sand, making it an ideal spot for enjoying the world-famous beach.

SeaWind has considerable experience in providing excellent food and beverage arrangements for groups of up to 500 people, making it the perfect venue for events like weddings, birthdays, company outings, conventions and other occasions.

The resort offers large rooms that carry Filipiniana and Balinese designs. It was the site of the Standard Insurance Manila to Boracay Race Awards Night, which finished in Boracay.

Call 9240995 or e-mail seawind@pacific.net.ph.

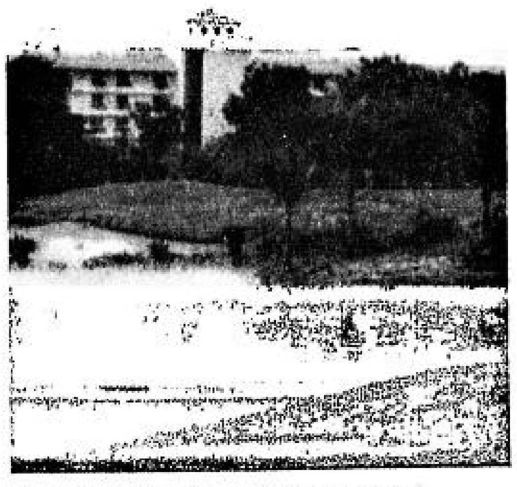
Weekend family options

HOTEL Inter-Continental Manila offers Family and Lifestyle Weekend Options for only P4,000++ on weekends from today up to Oct. 31.

Two overnight deluxe-room packages have been created to suit you and your family's personal needs. For bonding time with the kids, the Family Weekend Option includes a choice of buffet breakfast or lunch for two at Café Jeepney plus 10 percent discount on additional buffets and 50 percent off for children below 12 years old, complementary drinks and cake at the poolside, complementary Timezone Powercards and free access to Clark Hatch Fitness Center.

The Lifestyle Weekend Option offers buffet breakfast for two at Café Jeepney, a complementary relaxing foot massage and body massage therapy at the Suriya Spa in the hotel, 50-percent discount on additional massage therapy or traditional body spa treatments, a complementary bottle of wine when dining with three other guests at the Prince Albert Rotisserie, 10-percent discount on private dining and food and drinks at Le Boulevardier, and a bath and body gift pack from Essenses.

Additional discounts are available for those booking for two nights or two rooms. Call 8159711.



BREATHTAKING VIEW. Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field is situated in the 250-hectare Mimosa Leisure Estate, with a 36-hole championship golf course.

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JOB Market

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2004
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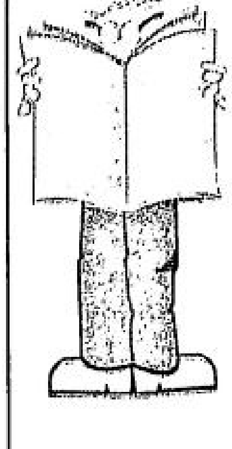


JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

CRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Catholic Relief Services, the overseas relief and development agency of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (CRS-USCCB), Philippine Program is looking for qualified staff for its Regional Learning Center (RLC). RLC provides capacity building support for institutions through the use organizational learning systems to inform and customize training and technical assistance in the field of microfinance.

We therefore need highly qualified individuals for the following contractual positions:

KNOWLEDGE MANAGER

The Knowledge Manager (KM) leads other staff and teams of RLC and client institutions in a collaborative effort to develop policies, procedures, and systems to strengthen client institutional capacities to better serve their own microfinance clients.

Qualifications

- Degree in Business Administration, Development Management, Knowledge Management, Business, Information Communications and Technology, or related fields. A master's degree is a plus.
- At least five years experience in implementation of knowledge management or information systems with capacity development institutions, including three years in a leadership role, or the equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Proven experience with intranet/internet web-based technologies, web publishing, authoring tools/graphics and data repository/data management tools.
- Excellent English communication and presentation skills (verbal and written)
- Ability to multi-task and work within a dynamic, flexible work environment
- Self motivated with a high degree of initiative, requiring minimal supervision
- Excellent creative problem solving skills; Demonstrated ability to interface with all levels of management (domestically and internationally) as well as a good understanding of the implications of diversity in the global workplace

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The position provides overall financial and administrative services, and coordinates activities for RLC.

Qualifications

- Degree in Business Administration, Accountancy, or other related courses. CPA a plus.
- At least three years experience in the field of finance and administrative work. Must have strong background in finance and/or accounting and office administration.
- Good oral and written English skills.
- Proficient in MS Word and Excel.
- Self motivated with a high degree of initiative, requiring minimal supervision
- Good interpersonal relation skills. Can deal with people at all levels in private/religious, and government institutions.

Interested individuals must submit an application letter, comprehensive resume with personal references via e-mail on or before August 14, 2004 to:

THE RLC DIRECTOR
Catholic Relief Services-USCCB, Philippine Program
Intramuros, Manila
E-mail: **hr-admin@crs-org.ph**
(Only qualified applicants will be notified.)

SM

If you want your career to go places, join any of our branches and get ready to reach the top of the corporate ladder

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

- not over 35 years old
- graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course
- male, must be 5'5½" & female, 5'2" in height
- with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel
- with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior
- with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit
- flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours

Branch Locations

Sta. Mesa, Bicutan, Sucat, Baguio, Dasmariñas & Pampanga

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. or send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

SM Shoemart
SM Corporate Office
Bldg. D, 1000 Bay Boulevard, SM Central Business Park
Bay City, Pasay City

or

Visit our Website : www.sm-shoemart.com
E-mail : Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

(Please bring resumé, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History printout and photocopy and original copy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

CENTURY CANNING CORPORATION

We are a leading, diversified food and beverage-based enterprise that provides products of high quality and superior value to consumers here and abroad. We are currently in need of highly competent and motivated professionals who will help us in realizing our company's vision and mission.

TRADE MARKETING ASSISTANT (for Davao)

Ideal candidate shall report directly to the Trade Marketing Manager and will be responsible for the trade marketing activities such as evaluation and implementation of promotional activities. Overseeing the deployment of marketing materials and coordination with the merchandising point persons of Mindanao area. We are looking for a male or female candidate between 24-32 years old, college graduate of any business course, must have a good command of oral and written communication, can speak and write in Visayan dialect and must be computer literate. Experience in trade marketing activities is an advantage.

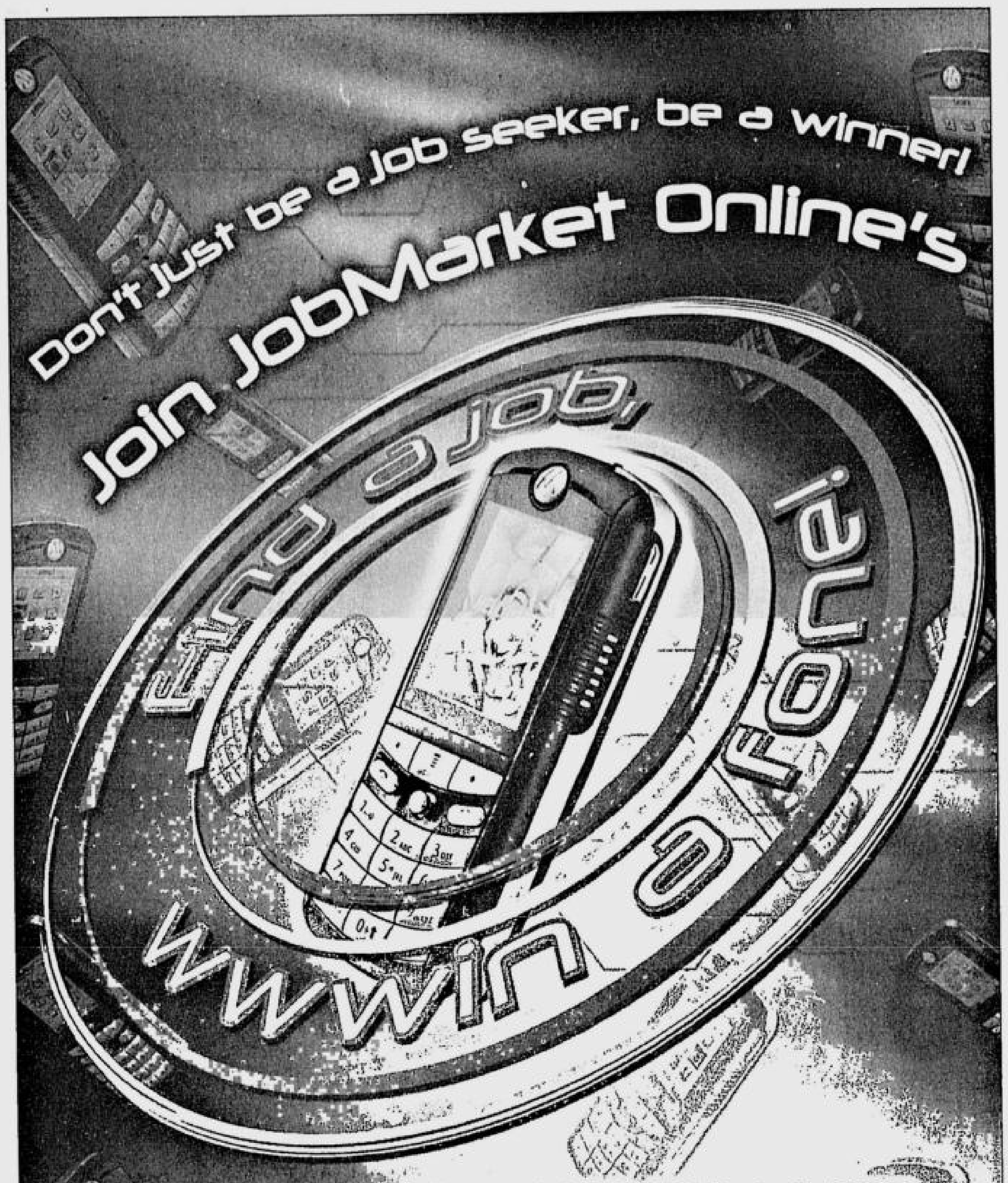
He must consistently set high quality standards at work, has excellent negotiation skills, exhibits strong interpersonal skills and highly flexible.

SR. VAN SALESMAN (for Davao)

Reports directly to the District Sales Manager. Handles and manages a group of tertiary accounts in a given area and works under general supervision. Relies on instructions and pre-established guidelines to perform the functions of the job. With at least 1-2 years route selling experience. Male, 25-30 years old, with a Bachelor's degree and must be computer literate. Must have a good command or oral and written communication, licensed to drive a van / truck. Able to relate to different types of people and to all levels in the organization. Consistently sets high quality standards at work, highly flexible and self-motivated.

Interested candidates may send or handcarry their updated resumé with contact number, recent (2x2) photo, photocopy of Official Transcript of Records to:

DAVAO STAR DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Ruby St. RGE Village, Agdao, Davao City
on or before August 18, 2004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Also at stake are MOTOROLA C650 mobile phones in the weekly draws and P500 Globe Prepaid Call Cards in the daily draws.

Log on to www.jobmarketonline.com and create a JobMarket Online account. Upload your resumé and receive a raffle entry. Invite your friends to join. The more friends who submit their resumés, the more raffle entries you get, the more chances of winning!

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PRINT TOWN GROUP OF COMPANIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- Graduate of any business course from reputable school
- With 2 or more years experience in multi-color commercial print sales.
- An entrepreneurial spirit with five figure income expectations is highly desirable
- Must able to present well in business-to-business situations along with the prospecting and lead development skills.
- Candidates should have strong written and oral communication skills.
- Must be proactive individual.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of Mass Communication , Marketing or related courses
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- With 1-2 years experience in sales/Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Independent and can work with minimal supervision
- Able to establish rapport with clients
- Dynamic, go-getter, a good team player

ACCOUNTING ANALYST

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Finance/Accountancy/Banking or equivalent.
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Required skill(s): word, excel, power point.
- At least 2 year(s) of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees specializing in Finance - General/Cost Accounting or equivalent.

JR. PURCHASER

- Graduate of Commerce or Engineering
- At least 1-2 years experience in same capacity
- Must be proficient in Microsoft office particularly Microsoft Excel and Word
- With good communication and bargaining skills
- Applicants must be willing to work in Mamplasan – Laguna.

JR. TECHNICAL SUPPORT ANALYST

- Industrial or Chemical Engineering Graduate/ or any engineering course
- Male/Female
- Preferably with 1-3 years experience in a manufacturing set-up
- Computer Literate
- Must be able to interact with production personnel.

JR. PRE-PRESS TECHNICIAN (Cebu)

- Computer Engineer/ECE/Computer Science graduate
- Background or relevant experience in pre-press and printing operations preferred.
- Familiarity with major graphics software applications, file preflight and color reproduction theory.
- Applicants must be willing to work in Cebu

ASST. PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

- Graduate of Commerce or Engineering
- At least 1-year experience in same capacity.
- Computer literate
- With working experience in warehouse operation
- Applicants must be willing to work in Laguna

PROPERTY HELPER

- High School/Vocational graduate
- At least 1-year experience in same capacity
- With driving skills (forklift/grablift)
- With working experience in warehouse operation

FOLDING AND GLUING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- Previous experience with operation of automatic folding and gluing machines preferred

DIE CUTTING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- College graduate with engineering background preferred
- Previous experience with automatic platen die cutting machines will be considered.

FEP Printing Corporation
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo Street near corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Or Email aoasan@fep.ph/rbalingit@fep.ph

FT

FINANCIAL TIMES

The Financial Times, one of the world's top sources of business news and information, needs the following staff for its expanding Manila operation:

ABSTRACTORS

Successful applicants will be responsible for content creation for online news and information vendors. He/she must meet the following criteria:

- Must have excellent writing skills in English
- Previous abstracting or writing experience required
- Good understanding of business and finance
- Good comprehension skills and a high level of attention to detail
- College graduate, not more than thirty years' old
- Able to work on shifts and holidays

ACCOUNTING STAFF (Temp)

- Graduate of BS Accountancy with good scholastic records
- With at least two years experience in general accounting, preparation of financial statements and bank reconciliation
- Proficient in accounting systems (AFIS), MS Excel and MS Word
- Experienced in detailing with reportorial requirements of the government and other agencies
- Responsible, self-motivated and has worked for a multinational company

PART-TIME TELEPHONE OPERATOR (Temp)

- Previous experience as telephone operator for a multinational company required
- Knowledgeable in PABX operation
- Excellent communication skills and telephone ethics
- Can work weekdays from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Interested applicants should post their detailed resumé, cover letter and most recent photograph not later than August 2, 2004, to The HR and Administration Manager at the following address:

Financial Times Philippines
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Incomplete application will not be processed

Visit our website www.ft.com

MEGA EXCHANGE

SALES ASSOCIATE

☐ Female/Single/below 25 years old
☐ At least 2nd year College
☐ Must be proficient in English
☐ Enthusiastic and of good character
☐ Pleasing personality

Apply personally (3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday) at 4th Floor, CyberZone, SM Megamall Building B, Mandaluyong City. Tel. No. 6332011 Look for Evelyn

---

Sony Music Entertainment (Phils.) Inc.

is currently in need of the following personnel for their expansion:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Male or Female, not over 35 yrs. old; graduate of any 4-year course; with good written and communication skills in English & Filipino; willing to travel; experience not necessary but will be an advantage.

Submit resumé w/ photo to the HRD, Sony Music Phils., GDC I A Bldg., 750 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City on or before July 28, 2004.

"Place Yourselves Under Our Wings"

Generali Pilipinas, a Life and Non-Life insurance company, is a subsidiary of Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A., Italy's biggest corporation and largest insurance company. Formed out of a partnership with one of the country's top financial institutions, SM Group's Banco De Oro Unibank and Kuok Group's Jerneh Asia Berhad, we envision to be one of the prominent players in the insurance industry.

As we continue to ROAR and SOAR, we invite LEADERS to join our dynamic and aggressive team as we open our wings for the following key positions:

Head, Non-Life Claims Division

- Will be responsible for the effective implementation of the Non-Life claims process through proper claims management and claims evaluation;
- Candidate must have at least 5 years experience in Non-Life claims management in a managerial capacity;
- Candidate must possess strong leadership and management skills.

Head, Non-Life Corporate Marketing Division

- Will be responsible for promoting and selling the Non-Life insurance business of the Company through direct sales negotiations and insurance brokers;
- Candidate must have at least 5 years experience in Non-Life marketing and insurance broker relations;
- Background in Non-Life underwriting an advantage;
- Candidate must possess strong leadership, management and marketing skills.

Account Officer - Brokers Channel

- Will be responsible for developing and maintaining insurance broker relationship for both the Life and Non-Life businesses of the Company;
- Candidate must have at least 4 years experience in account management preferably gained from an insurance industry;
- Candidate must possess excellent oral and written communication skills.

Training Officer - Non-Life

- Will be responsible for designing, developing and conducting Non-Life training courses for the agency force and designing management development programs;
- Candidate must have at least 3 years experience in Non-Life training;
- Candidate must be proficient in MS Office applications;
- Candidate must possess excellent oral and written communication skills.

In addition to the above requirements, the candidates must be:

- Ambitious and willing to grow with the company;
- Full of initiative and are self starters;
- Committed to an environment of excellence.

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HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
G/F Gercon Plaza Building,
7901 Makati Avenue, Makati City, Philippines 1226
hrd@generali.com.ph

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1. **Cashier/Billing & Collection Clerk**
2. **Payroll & Licensing Clerk**
   - A graduate of BS Accounting;
   - Proficient in computer & microsoft excel; and
   - Preferably with bookkeeping, collection experience.
3. **Marketing Support/Claims Specialist**
   - A graduate of business administration, marketing or related field;
   - Can write well in English or Filipino;
   - Willing to go on fieldwork in rural areas;
   - Proficient in computer and Microsoft office software; and
   - Preferably with advertising, marketing and/or training experience
4. **Regional Sales Supervisor for Eastern Visayas, Southeastern Mindanao**
   - A graduate of any 4 year college course;
   - At least 2 years supervisory experience in sales, preferably in pre-need, insurance or direct selling;
   - Proficient with computer and Microsoft office software; and
   - A resident of the region and is willing to travel in rural areas; and
   - Willing to be compensated on commission basis.

Interested applicants should submit the following documents:

1) Letter of application
2) Bio data with recent 2x2 colored ID picture
3) Photocopy of Transcript of Records.
4) NBI clearance
5) Medical certificate of good physical health

Kindly mail these documents to the following address on or before August 30, 2004. Please remember that only those shortlisted will be called for an interview.

THE HRD OFFICER
P.O. Box #47
UP Post Office
Diliman, Quezon City, 1101

ENGINEERS

ILF Consulting Engineers performs engineering services for the oil, gas and power industry worldwide. There are vacancies for engineers. Interested candidates should apply for the following positions:

Discipline:
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Pipeline
Process
Electrical
Instrumentation/ Control/ Communication
Civil/ Structural

Fields of specialisation:
The engineers are required to work onshore and offshore oil and gas facilities such as:
Oil and Gas Pipelines
Platforms
Flow stations, terminals and tank farm
Gas Distribution Facilities

Categories of service:
The services to be performed by the engineers fall into the following categories:
(a) Basic/ Conceptual design
(b) Detailed design
(c) Design vetting
(d) Project management
(e) Construction supervision, Commissioning

Applicants must have a B.S. degree in Engineering and minimum eight years of relevant experience.

Interested engineers should send a detailed resumé stating contact details (e-mail, telephone), qualifications, years of experience (onshore, offshore), complete employment history, languages, references, time of availability etc. The category/ categories of service (a,b,c,d,e) in which the applicant is interested must be clearly indicated and the experience relevant to the category/ categories should be highlighted. Preferences or exclusions, if any, must be clearly stated in the application.

The applications and resumé should be sent by email to:
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Inquirer Publications, Inc.
Escario St., Cebu City
search@inquirerpublications.ph/aoasan@fep.ph/rbalingit@fep.ph

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- College Graduate
- Knows CorelDraw 11 & Photoshop 7
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ACCOUNTING STAFF

- College Graduate
- M/F, Single, at least 21 yrs. of age
- Can work with minimum supervision
- Preferably with experience

Please submit resumé with recent picture to:

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142 Road 3, Pagasa, Q.C. Tel. # 927-1776
5/F, Bldg. A, SM Megamall Tel. # 635-6298
LGF, SM City North EDSA Tel. # 453-4364

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If you are experienced with good English communication skills, now is your opportunity to LIVE & WORK in the USA with your family thru a personalized assistance from US immigration law firm representative.

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needs

C++/JAVA PROGRAMMERS

QUALIFICATIONS:

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- Have sound programming knowledge using Java and/or C++
- Knowledge in Japanese is an advantage
- Resourceful and self-learner
- Willing to work as a team
- Male or Female not more than 24 years old
- With good moral character

Qualified applicants must bring the following requirements:

- Comprehensive resumé
- Diploma/Certificate of Graduation
- Transcript of Records
- 1 pc. 2x2 latest ID picture

Apply personally from Monday to Friday & look for Ms. Heidi S. Falceso.
Previous applicants need not apply.

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32nd Floor, Raffles Corporate Center, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

(For Metro Manila & Iloilo)

- female, not over 35 yers old
- graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology, or any 4-year Management course
- with extensive experience in personnel management
- must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

Interested applicants may mail their resumé with recent photo to:

Box #KA-023-04AB
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Bldg., #636 T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila

e-mail: intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: HRM

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*To recruit, train and manage sales executives (Brokers, Area Managers, Junior Account Officers, Sales Associates) to sell financial plans to individual, group and specialized market niches, using innovative and creative marketing strategies.

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*To recruit, train and manage a team to sell financial services to special accounts.
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We offer a very attractive package for those who qualify:
You'll have the best compensation in the industry with a fixed salary, variable income from overrides, direct commissions, bonuses, other benefits and perks

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OR Fax to 813-1222 / Mail to BOX CODE MN-2058
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Ideal candidates must be fluent in spoken and written Japanese or Chinese and English. Preferably with experience in program management, customer service, accounting and/or audit work.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS

Approve and verify claims and payment instructions, communicate with clients across Asia Pacific via email and telephone, review and analyze statistical reports. Perform periodic audit and identify opportunities for added business with clients.
Ideal candidates must be a degree holder of any business course with at least 3 years work experience in accounting/audit or marketing operations, preferably from a multinational company. Must have dealt with international clients and must have 2 years work experience in Customer/ Client Relations, in Asia Pacific setting.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANTS

Responsible for preparing and submitting relevant and accurate financial reports on a timely manner. Specifically, you will be responsible for reviewing and analyzing monthly financial statements and management reports, bank reconciliation, treasury functions and supervising a team of Junior Accountants.
Ideal candidates must be an Accounting graduate or its equivalent. Must be CPA, preferably with audit experience. Must have dealt with international clients and must have at least 3 years supervisory experience. With knowledge in any accounting software.

JUNIOR ACCOUNTANTS

Responsible for creating and updating financial records in ledgers using an automated accounting system, preparing financial statements, and reconciling various reports. Performs reconciliation of accounts and handles cash and cash-related transactions.
Ideal candidates must be an Accounting graduate or its equivalent. Preferably CPA.

All candidates must be fluent in spoken and written English.

Candidates are required to submit their resumes on or before August 15, 2004 to:

Summersault, Inc.
Human Resources Executive
12/F Chatham House, 116 Valero St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City 1227
or email at Arlane.Nava@Summersault-Outsourcing.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

THE JUNNA GROUP OF COMPANIES

One of the country's leading industrial groups with global partners engaged in the business of distribution, industrial services, manufacturing, and research and development is in need of the following personnel:

TREASURY AND FINANCE SUPERVISOR

- Preferably Female, 25- 29 years old
- Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
- Preferably CPA but not a requirement
- At least 2-3 years work experience in treasury and cash management functions
- Must have knowledge in Cashflow analysis and preparation

PURCHASING CLERK

- Male or Female, 24- 29 years old
- Proficient in written and oral communication
- Adept in the use of Microsoft Office
- Atleast 1 year experience in related field of work

SECRETARY

- Female
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Computer Literate
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- With pleasing personality and good moral character

CADET ENGINEER

- Male, 24-29 years old
- Graduate of Mechanical Engineering
- Must be Computer Literate
- With or Without experience

TELEPHONE OPERATOR

- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With pleasing personality and good moral character

Interested applicants may hand-carry, mail or e-mail their resume with recent photo and transcript of records to PEOPLE CENTER DEPARTMENT.
(TO BE ASSIGNED IN QUEZON CITY)

JIC Bldg. 11 2419 Syquia corner Calderon St., Sta. Ana, Manila 1009

E-mail Address : hradmin@junna.com
Telephone No. : 563-5508 loc. 309

DAILY E-NEWSPAPER NEEDS

FULL-TIME WRITER / EDITOR

- •Must have at least one-year news writing/editing experience
- •Have high analytical, comprehension skills
- •Excellent English communication, grammar skills
- •Proficient in typing and PC use
- •Can work evenings, with daily deadlines
- •Residents of Makati City have a definite advantage

SYSTEMS & NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

- •Expert on Linux servers and PC networking
- •Willing to work evenings (6 days a week, including weekends)
- •Able to communicate in English with other IT officers and non-technical people

E-mail resume, including expected salary range (in .txt format) to cp3500@i-manila.com.ph

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A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

SALES DIRECTOR

- 3-5 years Managerial experience in Real Estate Sales, preferably in leisure and vacation home segment
- With broad network of Licensed Real Estate Brokers
- Proven track record a must

PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

- Male or Female; 21 to 35 years old
- Willing to be trained
- Graduate of reputable school
- Willing to work on weekends
- Dynamic and articulate
- Experience in real estate selling or hotel service is an advantage

Send your resumé to:
2/F, Corporate Business Centre
151 Paseo de Roxas cor. Pasay Road
Makati City, Philippines 1228

ACCOUNTANTS

Female, not more than 30 years old; BS Accountancy graduate, preferably CPA; w/ at least two (2) years exposure in all aspects of financial accounting or auditing work; must be computer literate; Hardworking, Systematic, Analytical & well Organized.

LEGAL SECRETARY

Female, not more than 27 years old with pleasing personality; graduate of a four-year secretarial or office administration course; with strong background in MS Office Application; Good oral and written communication skills; Systematic and organized.

FIELD COORDINATORS

Female; graduate of any four-year course; with pleasing personality; honest and hardworking.

These are URGENT requirements!

Handcarry your resume with 2X2 photo, Monday to Friday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Proceed to HRD and Administration Department

Wheels, Inc.
No. 222 E. Rodriguez, Sr. Avenue, Q.C.
(Between Walter Mart and Delos Santos Medical Center)

SHIMADZU

SHIMADZU PHILIPPINES CORPORATION (SPC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Shimadzu Corporation Japan and a leader in marketing, sales and service of analytical and medical equipment in the Philippines.

We are looking for a:

MEDICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE AND MARKETING ASSISTANT to handle Diagnostic X-ray, Ultrasound and other medical equipment, preferably Radiologic Technologist or equivalent.

Please send your comprehensive resume with 2x2 recent picture in person, by mail or email to:

LAILA GONZALES
Shimadzu Philippines Corporation
6/F Cocofed Bldg. 144 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village Makati City
email: laila_gonzales@shimadzu.ph

Access to your success
SHIMADZU

EASTERN TRANSPORT SUPPLIES, INC.
NO. 1 BAYANIHAN DRIVE, BARANGAY
BAHAY TORO, PROJECT 8, QUEZON CITY

A leader in transportation supplies has an opening for the following positions:

SALES ENGINEERS

1. Mechanical Engineering graduate
2. Must not be more than 40 years old
3. Know how to drive
4. Can write and speak English well

ROUTE DRIVERS (Delivery/Pick-Up)

1. With professional driver's license (1-3)
2. With auto maintenance & traffic training
3. Knows all areas of Metro Manila & Luzon
4. Can write vividly

INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC

1. Must have experience to handle air compressor, hydraulics, electrical installations, boiler, hvac/welding
2. Not more than 45 years old

Please submit your bio-data or resumé personally or by mail to the above address complete with the following:

(Please look for Ms. Bessie)

1. Two (2) pcs. 2x2 picture
2. Barangay, Police & NBI Clearance
3. Previous employer's certificate
4. Transcript of records
5. TIN, SSS, Pag-ibig, Philhealth Certificate & ID
6. Sketch of address

A well-established events company is in need of:

EVENTS MGR./EVENTS COORDINATOR

with the ff. qualifications:

- Male/Female, 25-40 yrs. old
- Col. Grad. (Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Advertising or any other related business course)
- Has the ability to lead a project team in the MULTI STEP PROCESS from concept to implementation to satisfy client's expectations.
- At least 5 years experience in the same or similar capacity.
- Computer literate
- With good presentation & communication skills.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their resumé, transcript of records & 2x2 picture to:
Finance & Operations Manager
Level One Asia Corp.
25/f Phil. AXA Life Centre
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City 1200
Telefax: (02) 844-0755
E-mail: **finance@leveloneasia.com**

EXPORT CO. needs the ff:
Preferably residing w/n QC

1. STORE MERCHANDISERS
—w/ exp.in export mfg/Retail Store

2. ACCTG/AUDIT STAFF
—Acctng.grad w/exp.in Gen.Acctng/Retail Store

3. PRODUCTION SUPERVISORS
— Pref.Industrial Eng.,35 y.o below
— w/ exp. in metal mfg./can work under pressure

4. RETAIL STORE COORDINATOR/ ATTENDANT
— Female,5'4 ht.can speak fluent Eng.
— 3rd year coll.level in Bus./Art School
— w/ effective & selling skills, confident.

5. INDUSTRIAL DESIGNERS
— w/ rel. exp. in horns, bones, stainless,shells, wood designing
— w/ sense of style, taste & details

email to mzrind@yahoo.com or send to
#32 Chicago St., Cubao,QC
visit also our website www.mzrind.com

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ARCHITECT

- Male/Female, not more than 40 years old
- Graduate of Bachelor's Degree in Architecture
- With at least 2 years experience
- Proficient in Oral & Written Communication
- Knowledgeable in CADD

Mail resumé with 2x2 picture,
transcript of records to:

GRACE S. REYES DESIGNS, INC.
432 Mayon St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Q.C., 1114
or email at: grdi@pldtdsl.net

WE ARE URGENTLY IN NEED OF A

MATH TUTOR (part-time)

- **Bachelor or College Degree in Mathematics, Education or equivalent / Outstanding undergraduates will be considered**
- **Teaching experience in Math is an advantage**
- **Assignment will be in Quezon City**

Qualified applicants can submit their resumé, and other certificates and school credentials not later than August 9, 2004 via email: ad_mathtutor@yahoo.com, or via fax: 750-5426, Attention to JACKIE (tel no.: 812-8828)

WANTED APPLICANTS

URGENTLY IN NEED OF

Electricians, Plumbers, Maintenance Technicians, Secretaries, Office Clerks, Receptionist and Messengers (Preferably at least 3rd year college level)

Applicants are required to bring 2 pcs. 1x1 ID pictures, resumé, Brgy. Clearance, NBI Clearance at **Heritage Maintenance & Manpower Provider**, 3rd Flr., Creekside Mall, Amorsolo St. cor. Herrera St., Legazpi Village, Makati City.

SALES LADY
20-24 years old, at least college level
willing to be assigned in Alabang

ACCTG. CLERK
female, 20-24 years old
graduate of any course
pref. with bookkeeping knowledge

Submit resumé or biodata with recent picture to:

Unit 11 & 12 Madison Square,
Ortigas Ave., San Juan, M.M.
For other inquiries, please call 7257137 from 1-5pm only, look for Ms. Louie

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★2004 JOB EXPANSION★

OFFICE STAFF & MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Male/Female, Single/Married, College graduate of any course.
Apply in person with resumé & any original credentials.
Hiring will be on Monday to Saturday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,
August 02 to 07, 2004

APPLY AT:
Suite 808, West Tower, Tektite Phil. Stock Exchange Center,
Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City
(Back of Megamall near San Miguel Bldg.)
Note: Qualified applicants will start immediately.
Look for Mr. Noel Isidro
"attach this ad to your resumé"

COUNTER SALES

- male/female
- marketing or management graduate
- sales & customer service oriented
- with experience as Cashier
- pleasing personality
- good communication skills
- computer literate

Pls. send resumé thru e-mail (cristina@dchl.org)

RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION

POEA License No. 280-LB-052802-R

WE URGENTLY NEED THE FOLLOWING FOR OMAN:

Golden Coast Trading
Registration No. 10047302
P.O. Box 644 Seeb, Postal Code 121
Sultanate of Oman

- Pharmacist
- Lab. Technician
- Staff Nurse
- Waiter
- Waitress
- Lady Tailor
- Female Secretary
- Florist
- Beautician-Female
- Sales Lady
- Male Cook – Grade 17
- Male Cook – Grade 18
- Female Cook
- Optometrist
- Physio Therapist
- Crane Inst. Tech. – Male
- Crane Operator – Male
- Teacher M/F
- Driver M/F
- Doctor MBBS – M/F
- Sr. Cook – Grade 12

Qualifications:

Minimum of 3 years experience. Male/Female applicants. 22 to 38 years old.

Submit the following:
Personal resumé, Passport, 2x2 pictures (colored), Work reference, Diploma, NBI clearance to:

MANILA MAIN OFFICE
1166 Grey St., Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 5222128 / 5251935 / 5261310
E-mail – relcor@skyinet.net
Fax No. 5216119

"MAG-INGAT SA MGA ILLEGAL RECRUITERS FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY, NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED"

WANTED

Positions Offered:

1. **Architectural Designer / Site Coordinator (1)**
   - Licensed Architect, Male, Age 27-30 yrs. old
   - Experienced in Architectural, Civil & Interior Finishing works of Commercial Spaces, Boutiques, Restaurant, Offices, Shops, etc.;
   - Minimum work experience between 2-3 yrs. on Project Estimation & Project Implementation; Acts as Job Captain for Design Depastment
2. **Accounting Clerk (1)**
   - Male, Age 25-35 yrs. old
   - Knowledge in Cost Accounting, 2 yrs. work experience
3. **Business Development Officers**
   - Female, Single, Age 25-30 yrs. old
   - Minimum 5 yrs. working experience in marketing, architectural services, & has existing network with Design Professionals.
4. **Secretary/Purchaser (1)**
   - Female, Single, Age 25-30 yrs., College graduate of any 4 yr. course
   - Minimum 3 yrs. work experience in Construction firm doing Secretarial & Purchasing work, with pleasing personality.

Interested applicants may **apply personally** with Complete Documents at:
11 Alfonso St., V. Ignacio Blvd.,
Floodway, Rosario, Pasig
Tel. 656-01-03 • 656-5735
(Faxed applications & Follow-up calls will not be entertained)

IF YOU ARE HIGHLY MOTIVATED, COMPETENT ORGANIZED & LOOKING FOR A HIGH PAYING STABLE JOB W/ POTENTIAL FOR PROMOTION.
WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF OUR GROWING FAST FOOD COMPANY.

JOB OPENINGS:

ACCOUNTING STAFF
30 STORE CASHIERS

Female, college graduate, good verbal & written skills
Highly organized; competitive & efficient.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - RISK MGMT

Female, preferably graduate of Elec. Engr. Course
Proficient in computer; highly organized w/ good verbal & written skills.

50 SERVICE CREWS

Female, college level, willing to be assigned to various malls and schools in the ff. areas: Mla., Q.C., Parañaque, Mandaluyong, Makati, Cavite, Pampanga, Alabang.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE WILLING TO WORK LONG & FLEXIBLE HOURS. MUST BE WILLING TO UNDERGO TRAINING, EXPERIENCE IN YOUR FIELD IS AN ADVANTAGE. Please apply in person at 158 P. Sevilla St., between 6th & 7th Aves., Grace Park, Caloocan City. Bring RESUME w/ 2x2 colored photo.

GRAND JOB FAIR 2004

...With or without experience... to be assigned for the positions of

*** Jr. Supervisor - Code JS**
*** Management Trainee - Code MT**
*** Office Staff - Code OS**

ALSO NEEDS:
108 **Graduates of** PT, OT, Nursing, Psychology, MedTech, Biology, Pharmacy & any Medical Courses
28 **Graduates of** ComSci, ComEng, ComProg, ComTech, ComSec, & any Comp. Courses.
45 **Graduates of** Accountancy, Commerce, Education, LLB & any BS & AB courses.
57 **Graduates of** EE, CE, ECE, ME, ChemEng, Geodetics Arch & Technical Courses

August 2-6, 2004 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)
You may apply personally @ 235-C Mercan Bldg., Edsa Ext., Pasay City
(walking distance from MRT-Taft Stn. Going to Roxas Blvd., Near Allied Bank). Bring resumé w/ 2x2 pic. & credentials.

To prioritize your application don't forget to clip this ad to your resumé & look for Ms. Bheng Estrada

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Don't be left behind!!!

Canada & USA need YOU!!!

Direct assistance/hire is provided by our Own Homecare Agencies in North America:

* Care Link USA (Michigan-USA)
* Care Link Canada (Toronto-Canada)

FREE online posting of resumé of our students from our own website!!
www.clccaregiver.com

Call Now!!!

CLC Caregiver Training Center Inc.
The Big Orange Bldg. 7th floor Unit J
328 EDSA, Caloocan City
Tel/Fax: 362-69-48 / 0920-9135383

A fast growing company engaged in the distribution of foreign books and publication of local educational materials is in IMMEDIATE NEED of:

Audit Manager

Qualifications:
- CPA preferably with MBA units
- With good scholastic records and good computer literacy
- With at least 3 years audit experience in Managerial position
- With good judgment and decision-making skills
- Diligent, proactive, and can work overtime as need arises
- Not more than 45 years old

Regional Area Marketing Managers

1 for Visayas Region
1 for Mindanao Region

Qualifications:
- Must have 5 years experience in the same or equivalent position in other companies
- Must be good in both oral and written communication
- With valid driver's license
- Must be willing to travel and/or accept assignments outside of area of assignment.
- Must be an MBA graduate
- Computer literate
- Preferably with background in marketing textbooks/reference books

Marketing Manager

Qualifications:
- At least 5 years work experience in the same or equivalent position in sales, marketing, and operation in a service oriented industry
- Graduate of Business Administration preferably with masteral degree
- Excellent written and oral communication and presentation skills
- Result oriented with very good leadership and interpersonal skills
- Highly creative, innovative, flexible and resourceful
- Computer literate

Marketing Executives

Qualifications:
- Must have at least 2 years experience in the same or equivalent position in other companies
- Must be good in both oral and written communication
- With valid driver's license
- Must be willing to travel and/or accept assignments outside of area of assignment
- Must at least be a graduate of Marketing or any business course
- Computer literate
- Preferably with background in marketing textbooks/reference books and titles in the medical and other professions

Requirements:
* resume w/ 2x2 photo * transcript of records
Send letter of application indicating the desired monthly salary to:

C&E Publishing, Inc.
1672 Quezon Ave., South Triangle, Quezon City
email: hrd@cebookshop.com

Philippine TIPS

TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of personnel to fill in the following positions:

Administrative Assistants (2)

- College graduate
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Highly organized and efficient
- Can work under pressure and minimum supervision
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.)
- With at least 1 year experience of the same capacity

Bookkeeper (1)

- Female, B.S. Accounting graduate
- With at least 1 year general accounting experience
- Computer literate

Secretary/Receptionist (1)

- Female, Secretarial graduate
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Highly organized and efficient
- With at least 1 year experience of the same capacity
- Computer literate

Qualified applicants are requested to send their expression of interest together with their resumé to phil_tips@philtips.com or Fax: 687-2195.

WANTED MOTHERS

WITH YOUNG CHILDREN (ages 0-12 years old)
Who want to raise the IQ and EQ of their child

If you:
- are willing to work 8 to 10 hours a week around your children's schedule or your current occupation.
- are willing to work part-time presenting to parents with young children.

We offer:
- a FREE seminar on how to develop your child's potential for maximum IQ and EQ.
- a FREE hands-on orientation using our multilevel and multisensory materials.
- an income of P4,000 for 5 to 6 presentations.
- a chance to own the programs for your children at almost NO COST.

WE ALSO NEED PEOPLE ABLE TO WORK FULL TIME
INCOME P30,000 up

Bring your biodata with ID picture, August 2 & 3, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. to:

504 Galleria Corporate Center
Robinsons Galleria
EDSA cor. Ortigas

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST FOREIGN BANK

INVITES YOU TO BE PART OF ITS DYNAMIC TEAM

ACCOUNTING (CPA)
RISK MANAGEMENT
CREDIT (CPA)
OPERATIONS
&
ADMINISTRATION STAFF

We need business course graduates, who are not over 25 years old, proficient in computer programs, good communication and inter-personal skills, and with pleasing personality.
Send application letter, curriculum vitae with references, transcript of records and colored 2 x 2 picture to Box no. 105 c/o Classified Ads Dept., Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F, Atrium of Makati, Makati City.

PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB

IMUS and BIÑAN ASSIGNMENT

PERSONNEL SUPERVISORS
- female, not more than 35 years old
- with at least 1 year related working experience in the same capacity

PERSONNEL STAFF
- female, not more than 25 years old
- with experience in recruitment, timekeeping, payroll

ACCOUNTING / AUDIT STAFF
- male / female, not more than 25 years old
- preferably with related experience

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS
- male / female, not more than 25 years old
- knowledgeable in Windows 9X, MS Office, hardware and software installation

MAINTENANCE STAFF
- male, not more than 35 years old
- RME, with related working experience

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
- female, not more than 25 years old
- BSN graduate

VISUAL ARTISTS
- male, graduate of any four-year course
- with related working experience in a retail industry

INTERNAL SECURITIES
- female, not more than 35 years old
- related working experience in retail stores is a must

BUTCHERS
- male, at least High School graduate
- with related working experience

HEAD OFFICE ASSIGNMENT

PROGRAMMERS
- male / female, graduate of related course
- knowledgeable in AS 400 and RPG

SR. ACCOUNTANTS
- male / female, not more than 35 years old
- preferably CPA, with related working experience

ACCOUNTING / AUDIT STAFF
- male / female Accounting graduate
- with related working experience

Interested applicants are requested to mail their resumé with 2x2 ID picture and credentials to:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB, INC.
Tabacalera Bldg., 900 Romualdez St., Ermita, Manila

Walk-in applicants will not be entertained

SEMINAR WORKSHOP
for
ASPIRING FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

Know what it takes to be a Flight Attendant!
Now is your chance to fly!
Join us in this 3-day seminar workshop...

Date: August 6-8, 2004
Time: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Venue: WINGS CAREER CENTER
23/F Burgundy Corporate Tower
Sen Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City

For Inquiries
Please call (02) 889-4647
and look for Mr. Russell
or Visit us at
WINGS CAREER CENTER

Women In Global Synergy

NOVO NORDISK PHARMACEUTICALS (PHILIPPINES), INC.

Wholly-owned subsidiary of Novo Nordisk A/S
Is currently in need of

FINANCE ASSISTANT/FINANCE ANALYST

Qualifications:

- ✓ Degree holder in Accountancy
- ✓ Proficient in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word
- ✓ With eye for details
- ✓ Good communication skills
- ✓ Results oriented
- ✓ With good moral character and pleasing personality

Additional Qualifications for Finance Analyst:

- ✓ Certified Public Accountant
- ✓ High computer aptitude
- ✓ Potential leader

If you think you measure up to the requirements, please send your application letter together with a comprehensive resumé, 2x2 photo & transcript of your school records to:

Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals (Philippines), Inc.
P.O. Box 13129, Ortigas Center Post Office
Ortigas Center 1605
Pasig City
Attention: HR Services

Please provide contact number

Novo Nordisk is a focused healthcare company. With the broadest diabetes product portfolio in the industry, including the most advanced products within the area of insulin delivery systems, Novo Nordisk is a world leader in diabetes care. In addition, Novo Nordisk has a leading position in areas such as haemostasis management, growth hormone therapy and hormone replacement therapy. Novo Nordisk manufacturers and markets pharmaceutical products and services that make a significant difference to patients, the medical profession and society.
Novo Nordisk's B shares are listed in the stock exchanges in Copenhagen and London. Its ADSs are listed in the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol 'NVO'. For further company information visit www.novonordisk.com.

"A JOB HERE IS NEVER JUST A JOB"

novo nordisk®

ACCOUNTANTS

For assignment to clients in the services, distribution and manufacturing sectors:

Qualifications:

- Accounting graduate
- Proficient in Word and Excel
- Preferably with previous working experience
- Whom could effectively interact with top management
- Preferably CPA

Interested accountants are requested to personally submit their resumé and credentials Mondays to Wednesdays, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. only to:

MANILA CONSULTING & MANAGEMENT CO., INC.
Unit 2106, 88 Corporate Center
Sedeño corner Valero Street
Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City

INNOVATIVE CONTROLS, INC.

www.innovativecontrols.com.ph
is in need of highly motivated, dedicated & trustworthy individuals to grow with us:

TECHNICAL ENGINEERS

- Graduate of Electrical Engineering/Electrical Technology; Male/Female; Single; 22-30 years old
- Strong knowledge of PLC and motor controls.
- With pleasant and dynamic personality
- Computer literate
- With driving skill is an advantage

MESSENGER

- College level; Male; Single; 22-30 years old
- With initiative, pleasant and dynamic personality
- Driving skill (car & motorcycle) is a must
- Knowledgeable in various areas of Metro Manila

Interested applicants may send their application letter comprehensive resume and recent 2x2 colored picture to INNOVATIVE CONTROLS, INC., Unit 201 ANSA 1 Bldg., 4704 Tella Cor. Solchuaga Sts., Makati City. Tel. No.: 8902691/8902673.

A more CHALLENGING and REWARDING career awaits you

A fast growing Garments Manufacturing Company is in search of a Dynamic, Aggressive and result oriented individuals who can fill the following positions:

- **Human Resources Manager / Personnel**
- **Industrial Engineers**
- **Accountants**
- **Computer Programmers**
- **Merchandiser**
- **Inventory/Warehouse Personnel**
- **Fashion Designer**
- **Secretaries**
- **Clerks**

We also need people who can bridge out their skills to their world of expertise for the following positions:

- **Garments Sub-Contractor**
- **Pattern Makers**
- **Sample Sewer**
- **Sample Cutter**
- **Trimmers**
- **Edger**
- **Boy / Utility**
- **Sales Ladies**
- **Sewer**
- **Button Holler/Sewer**
- **Presser**
- **Packers**
- **Delivery Boys**
- **Drivers**
- **Dispatcher**
- **Quality Control**

Interested applicants can call us at Tel. #s (044) 641-1647 or (044) 288-2250
Cell phone #: (0927) 477-7830

URGENTLY NEEDED

DISTRIBUTION NETWORK MANAGER

For an exciting, dynamic and young company

- To build provincial acquisition teams and develop a provincial distributor network
- Between 32-35 years of age with at least 5 years managerial experience
- Needs to have some familiarity with information technology and financial system with a slant towards marketing
- Must be willing to travel
- Compensation based on credentials

Interested applicant please apply at:

Unit 206, Raman Condominium, 1130 Chino Roces Ave., Makati City
Tel. No.: (02) 899 5544 / 899 5542 / 897 3571 **Look for Ms. Jane Palomique**

Plains & Prints is a fast-growing brand of women's apparel, intimate wear, fragrances and other fashion accessories. With 29 outlets nationwide, Plains & Prints joins the ranks of the top fashion retail companies in the Philippines.

We are currenly looking for competent people to fill in the following positions:

plains&prints

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

- With at least one year work experience in the retail industry handling Sales

AREA SALES SUPERVISOR

- With at lest one year work experience as an Area Sales Supervisor
- Capable of training store personnel and has a good track record in Sales

BUYER

- Has extensively worked as a Buyer in the retail industry, preferably handling the same line of products.

SENIOR MERCHANDISER

- Preferably with 2-3 years work experience in a similar business handling both product development as well as merchandise mix and inventory level analyses.

FASHION DESIGNER

- Has intensive work experience in fashion designing preferably of women's apparel
- Exceptionally creative; updated with the latest trends in clothing

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- Has a knack and passion for drawing
- Adept in the use of computer graphic applications

General Qualifications: College Degree Holder; Computer-literate; With high leadership, communication and analytical skills; Possesses strong Marketing and Promotions skills; Multi-tasking

Submit your resume with 2x2 picture personally at 21 Mapalad St. San Francisco Del Monte, Q.C. or email to plainsandprints@yahoo.com. Please indicate the position you are applying for.

Qualified candidates shall be given a remuneration package commensurate to their qualifications.

Philippine TIPS

TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of experts to fill in the following positions:

Training and Certification Adviser (1)

- At least five (5) years experience in managing health training programs for health professionals
- Experience in certification/evaluation of health program in the Philippines both in the public or private sector
- Experience in TB DOTS programs in the Philippines preferred.
- An MD, preferably with a Master's degree
- A Filipino national

Health Services Replication/Expansion Adviser (1)

- At least five years experience in setting up TB DOTS or similar services in the private sector;
- Public health program management experience, expertise in health services quality assurance and expertise in developing quality, measures for health services such as quality circles, development of CPGs, clinical algorithms preferred;
- Knowledgeable/experience in Philippine social health insurance desirable
- MD, preferably with a Master's in any field of health management
- Expertise in TB DOTS desirable
- Filipino national

Qualified applicants are requested to send their expression of interest together with their resumé to phil_tips@philtips.com

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SCOPRO **SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.,**
manufacturer / exporter of sport optics is in need of:

LENS PROCESS ENGINEER

Qualifications:

- Male, single, not over 28 years old
- Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Has knowledge in AUTO CAD
- Willing to undergo training
- Organized, hardworking and flexible

Send your comprehensive resumé with latest ID Picture to:

SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
Boncraft Building, Mayon corner Pinatubo Streets
Mandaluyong City Tel# 533-8171 to 72

Attn.: Ms. Lyn S. Seguerra
Human Resources Dept.

THE COMPANY

The joint companies of Central Lumber Corporation, a Cebu-based company and a recognized name in the construction supply industry, and Mc Alpines Limited, one of the three largest, privately owned sawmilling, timber and building groups in New Zealand, is in need of:

TERRITORY MANAGERS

To promote and sell the company's high quality treated, kiln dried wood products for construction to the architectural profession.

THE CANDIDATES WE ARE INTERESTED IN SHOULD BE:

- Dynamic, aggressive and with good communication skills
- Fresh graduate of Architecture or Civil Engineering course
- Willing to learn and open to constructive criticism
- has the ability to blend well with people
- Has good computer skill

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING:

- A compensation package that is competitive in the industry
- Complete training in sales and territory management
- Orientation training in the Cebu home office
- Career growth opportunities

GET A CHANCE TO START A CAREER IN SALES, THE RIGHT WAY

Please send your resumé or come and visit us at:

Armourwood Office
1208 12th Flr., Mega Plaza Bldg.
Cor. ADB and Garnet Sts., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Telephone: 914-0097, 687-7624

World-class, multi-awarded PR firm looking for...

PR Staff Assistants who should be:

- Between 20-25 years of age
- Graduates of MassCom, Journalism, Literature, other communications-related courses from top universities
- Adept at both oral and written communications
- Creative, hardworking and willing to learn

Executive Secretaries to the President & EVP who should be:

- Between 20-25 years of age
- Graduates of 4-year college courses or secretarial course (previous employment as secretary an advantage)
- Fluent in English
- Organized, pleasant and willing to work hard

If you are interested, please call **Tara**
at tel. no. **891-3396** or **891-3485.**

We are inviting aggressive and mature individuals to fill up vacant position as continue our commitment in giving the best quality of service to our client

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- * BS Accounting Graduate
- * Male or Female 22 to 28 years old
- * Computer Literate
- * Have at least 1 year work experience
- * Trustworthy, mature responsible outlook and open to new ideas

INTERESTED APPLICANTS may send or submit personally their updated resumé with recent ID picture, NBI clearance, photocopy of transcript of records and certificate of previous employment to:

ARCHITECKS
metal systems inc.
533 Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. No. 931-2602 / 951-2290 Fax No. 931-1459
e-mail add.: sales@architecks.com.ph

HIMLAYANG PILIPINO, INCORPORATED

invites qualified applicants for the following positions:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Bachelor's degree holder preferably in Business Administration or other related field
- Adept in secretarial functions for top level management
- Has above-average oral and written communication skills
- Highly computer literate
- With high level of efficiency in managing office systems and can relate with all types of people and all levels of the organization

JUNIOR AUDITOR

- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Preferably male and single, between 22-25 yrs. old
- Has at least one (1) year experience in accounting and/or auditing work
- Highly responsible and with keen eye for details

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply personally with comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 ID photo at:

The Human Resources Department
6th Floor, Triumph Building
1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS (HOLDINGS) INC.

Cambridge University Press is the printing and publishing house of the University of Cambridge, and is the oldest press in the world. It devotes itself to the furtherance of the acquisition, advancement, conservation, and dissemination of knowledge in the areas of education, religion, learning and research. The Press has established its I.T. development office here in Manila, and needs:

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Requirements:

- * Graduate of BS in Computer Science or related courses
- * 1-2 years of experience in JAVA (J2SE, JSP, Servlets,JavaBeans, JDBC)
- * 1-2 years of experience in HTML and Javascript
- * Knowledge in Struts Framework, Design Patterns, JBoss, Eclipse and Unix preferred
- * Knowledge in Rational Unified Process/UML an advantage
- * Oracle database experience a plus
- * Teamplayer, fast learner and self motivated

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Salcedo Village, Makati City, Philippines
TELEPHONE +632 840 5735 to 36 | FAX +632 840 5734
EMAIL jlacanienta@cambridge.org
UK.CAMBRIDGE.ORG

We are in immediate need for:

MARKETING MANAGER
ACCOUNTING OFFICER

- Graduate of (BS) Accountancy or any 4-year college course
- With basic knowledge in non-life insurance
- Computer literate (MS Word & MS Excel)
- With good moral character
- Goal Driven with Good PR

Submit your resumés personally at:

JIAMCI *JASA INSURANCE AGENCY & MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, INC.*
9 Flr. Ace Bldg., Rada cor. Dela Rosa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No. (02) 894-3621/Fax (02) 840-5913. E-mail: jiamci@yahoo.com

NURSES.... why leave your home and family???

KNOW SOMEONE CURRENTLY WORKING IN THE U.S. WHO WANTS TO COME BACK HOME TO THE PHILIPPINES????

IF YOU ARE A U.S. CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE, WE HAVE A ONE OF A KIND OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!!!!!

A specialized American Outsourcing Company, providing a wide-range of telephone & web-based medical services, has a communication center staffed with healthcare professionals in the Philippines.

The Company is looking for **U.S. Registered NURSES** to be Call Center Agents, who will be trained to support US-based clients in a variety of healthcare related industries.

WHAT WE OFFER:

- No need to leave your home and your family
- Paid training program
- Excellent compensation & benefits package
- Opportunity for significant personal growth
- Work with leading U.S. Healthcare Organizations

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be a United States Registered Nurse (please provide the US State in which you are currently licensed as an RN)
- Above average ENGLISH communication skills (oral & written)
- Computer Literate
- Able to document meticulously
- Possess critical thinking skills
- Capacity to function independently
- Work well in stressful situations
- Willing to undergo training and work various SHIFTS
- Has strong work ethics and good work attitude

Interested applicants can e-mail their application letters, together with a comprehensive resumé to RN@medicall.us for consideration.

JOB OPENINGS

The first and only full-service international standard deluxe hotel in the South of Metro Manila is in need of the following positions:

FOOD & BEVERAGE DIRECTOR

Qualifications:

- *Male/Female 28-40 years old, preferably with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management*
- *With at least (3) three years experience in overseeing and directing all aspects of Food & Beverage operations of a hotel or operation of the same type*
- *Can formulate and execute Food & Beverage Plans and optimize quality levels of products and services*
- *With excellent communication, leadership and managerial skills*

ASSISTANT FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER

Qualifications:

- *Male/Female 28-40 years old, preferably with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management*
- *With at least (2) two years extensive supervisory experience gained from hotel set-up, reputable restaurant and local & international food service company*
- *Client centered and values customer service*
- *With excellent communication, leadership and managerial skills*

INCOME AUDITOR

Qualifications:

- *Male/Female, 25 – 35 years old, Accountancy Graduate*
- *With at least (2) two years experience in Auditing in a hotel or same industry*
- *Well verse in Fidelio System (F & B and FO Audit)*
- *Can perform multi-skilled tasks and can work well under pressure*

Interested applicants should be creative, highly motivated, posses a strong drive and are team players.

Please send your resume together with your recent 2x2 photo to:
RPJ DEVELOPMENT INC.
6th Floor Room 6a Westgate Tower
Madrigal Business Park
Alabang Muntinlupa City 1771
Only qualified applicants will be called for interview

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- Preferably male, at least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
- Familiar with psychological tests
- Knows how to use office software
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Analytical Skills, Report Writing Skills

Responsibilities:

- To provide recruitment, selection and employment services and maintain an HR information system.

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Qualifications:

- College graduate major in Accounting
- 1 year experience in this job or other similar jobs
- Knowledge of basic accounting principles
- Knowledge of different entries in the check voucher
- Knowledge of basic computer operation
- Accounting Skills, Report Writing Skills, Ability to prepare check, Interpersonal Skills, Filing Skills, Computer Skills

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the preparation of checks and preparation of monthly schedule of accruals, journal entries of accounts payable and maintenance of its subsidiary ledger.

EDITORIAL SYSTEMS ANALYST/ PROGRAMMER

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- 1-2 years experience on this job or jobs leading to it
- Knowledge in Visual Basic or powerbuilder, VB Scripting or Perl Scripting, Web programming, MS SQL 2000 or Sybase SQL or other database management (RDBMS)
- Knowledge in Short Message Service application

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for systems analysis, design and development of specific customized software application required by the company
- Documents software applications for in-house user training

Send your application letter
and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City

not later than Wednesday, August 4, 2004

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

GREAT JOBS FOR A GREAT TEAM!
JOIN THE RAMCAR BATTERY GROUP!

Q.A. AUDITORS

- Male/Female, 22-27 years old; Graduates of B.S. ME, EE, ChE or IE.
- Experience not required but knowledge and exposure on ISO systems, quality inspections, SPC, dimensional measurements, etc. is a definite advantage.
- Will conduct process and product audits, perform process and equipment validations and certifications, assist in setting-up OPCR systems, SPC, and quality control points.
- Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

1. PRODUCT ENGINEERS
2. PRODUCT DESIGN ENGINEERS
3. DRAFTSMEN

- Male, 21-35 years old; Graduates of Mechanical Engineering.
- Experience not required but must possess potentials for the job. Must have exposure on AutoCAD, design and 3D modeling.
- With good communication and leadership skills.
- Willing to be based in Bulacan.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES ENGINEER
2. ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMIST

- Male, 21-30 years old; Graduate of either Mechanical or Chemical Engineering/Chemistry.
- With experience in Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations and Pollution Control.
- Flexible, fast learner and hands-on engineer.
- For Bulacan assignment.

RESEARCHER

- Male/Female; 22-25 years old; B.S. Statistics or Statistics-related course.
- Must have at least 2 years experience on marketing research in a research agency.
- With excellent communication and presentation skills.

CAD DESIGNERS

- Male, 22-28 years old; graduate of B.S. Mechanical Engineering (licensed).
- Well-verse in AUTOCADD and other equivalent design software.

CNC SPECIALISTS/OPERATORS

- Male, 19-28 years old; graduate of Technical course.
- With basic knowledge/training in CNC Milling Operations.

MACHINE ASSEMBLERS

- Male, 25-35 years old; graduate of Technical course.
- Must be experienced in machine wiring.

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.

THESE ARE ALL URGENT REQUIREMENTS. ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUME, 2X2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY GROUP)
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
ebmuscat@motolite.com

- ***Previous applicants need not apply.***

TOYOTA ORTIGAS

The fastest growing Toyota dealer in the Philippines
is in search of hardworking and aggressive achievers:

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISORS (2)

Male/Female, not more than 40 years old. Accounting graduate, a Certified Public Accountant with at least 2-3 years experience in general accounting preferably in supervisory level. With excellent oral and written communication skills.

ACCOUNTING CLERKS (3)

Male/Female, not more than 40 years old. Accounting graduate, preferably with experience in general accounting. Proficient in MS Office applications. With excellent oral and written communication skills.

MARKETING PROFESSIONALS (20)

Male/Female, not more than 30 years old, a graduate of any four-year course. Must possess excellent communication skills, must be self-motivated, and must have a very dynamic personality.

SECRETARIES (2)

Female, not more than 30 years old, a graduate of any four-year course. Must possess good interpersonal and communication skills. Knowledgeable on MS Office appllications.

SERVICE ESTIMATOR (1)

Male, licensed Mechanical Engineer, not more than 40 years old. Must be customer-oriented and with excellent oral and written communication skills. Background in the automotive industry is an advantage. Knowledgeable on MS Office applications.

PULL-OUT DRIVERS (2)

Male, with professional driver's license, with at least three year's driving experience for a company. Must know how to drive vehicles with automatic and manual transmission. Willing to work late nights.

JOB CONTROLLER (1)

Male, preferably an Engineering graduate, not more than 28 years old, knowledgeable in the automotive industry, people-oriented and willing to work long hours.

TECHNICIANS (3)

Male, not more than 35 years old, a graduate of automotive or any related course, with at least three years' experience in the same field. Must be knowledgeable in handling electrical and air-con jobs.

If you have what it takes to be a part of a very goal-oriented team, then submit your resumé, 2x2 colored photo, transcript of records, and certificate of employment to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
124 E. Rodriguez Avenue, Barrio Ugong, Pasig City
hr@toyotaortigas.com
Testing and initial interview schedule: Monday, Wednesday; 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

---

A foreign commercial bank with full operations in the Philippines is seeking to employ an individual for the position of:

Chief FX Dealer - Assistant Vice President

Minimum Qualification/Experience:

- Business-related tertiary qualification (college degree) with a strong foundation in Finance, Economics or BS Math
- At least five-years experience in Foreign Exchange and Money Market in a commercial bank, with a proven record in generating profitable revenue streams
- BAP Certified Treasury Professional
- Proven analytical ability with strong problem solving skills and initiative
- Proven record of making money/revenue generation
- Must be a team player, able to work well with others and focus on achieving organizational/divisional goals and targets
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written
- Computer literate, desirably in MS Office environment

Interested persons who meet these requirements are required to apply in writing to:

HR Department
Box No. MK - 146, c/o Classified Ads Dept.
Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F Atrium of Makati Bldg.,
Makati Ave., Makati City

And enclose the following documents

1) Comprehensive Resumé
2) Transcript of Record
3) Telephone/Contact Number/email address, and
4) Recent passport sized photo
5) Copy of completion of the Treasury Certification Program

Selection process for applicants will include series of interview. Application closes on 7 August 2004. **Only successful applicants will be notified.**

Member – PDIC

Exec advocates good practices in recruitment industry

By JR Bustamante

HR FOCUS

THE OPPORTUNITY to earn in dollars has lured Filipinos to surrender their lifetime savings or pawn their valuable possessions just to pay the exorbitant placement fees demanded from them by illegal recruitment agencies. This is a fact that Alex Godino, Division Head at International Personnel Consultants (IPC), says he cannot stomach as he laments the reality that the government can't stop shady recruitment agencies from taking advantage of Filipinos' desperation.

"Placement fees are allowed by law. The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration allows licensed agencies to collect a one-month equivalent of their salaries as payment for placement fees, charging them before departure," says Godino. "I would like to change the whole system, the molds and stereotypes of recruiters collecting exorbitant amounts from candidates only for the new hires to find out they get only so much salary."

IPC has been in the staffing business since 1992 deploying Filipino nurses, occupational therapists and medical technologists to the US. According to Godino, the IPC candidates have overwhelming passing rates when taking professional qualifying exams. In 1996, IPC began providing temporary personnel to local businesses in Metro Manila clinching a nationwide contract with one of the largest of worldwide companies in 2004.

An affiliate of IPC, the Reynolds Review Institute, Inc., was formed to provide training in all aspects of the English language with the objective of producing exceptional professionals, whether working in the Philippines or overseas.

English proficiency

Aside from exorbitant recruitment fees, Godino also has strong opinions on how Filipinos can compete better in the world market. One of these is on education. Godino expounds, "Through the years, our system of education in the Philippines has dramatically changed from one politician to another. The English proficiency rate went down from 50 percent to 26 percent, which is an alarming percentage. College students think that they are already okay if they can speak *Taglish*, but no, it's definitely not okay. You can't use *Taglish* overseas, only pure English. It's very important how well you can communicate especially in the medical field, otherwise your patients may die out on you!"

Godino points out a misconception, "Filipinos think that the US demand for nurses would drag on for the next 20 years but that's not true anymore because our English proficiency level has gone down. Most of our nurses are failing their exams. The hospitals in America can't wait for so long in terms of training time plus the long visa processing period. So they look for other venues like India, Hong Kong, Singapore, and even, Japan."

On a positive note, Godino adds that "There is no doubt that Filipino nurses are very, very good performance-wise. They are only failing in their English proficiency. That is why our company has set up the Reynold's Review Institute to review the applicants before they take the English exams."

Another area where Godino is worried about is the trend of Filipino doctors training as nurses. "Doctors are shifting, using it (nursing) as a stepping-stone. But what they don't realize is that you can't easily shift from a doctor to a nurse. Imagine, as a doctor, you have developed a certain personality. Then suddenly, you are taking orders from a nurse when you're supposed to be giving orders. You soon develop an attitude problem and resist being a team player. There are a lot of these doctors who shifted and were sent home. We don't recommend shifters who just want to go to the States."

Company strategy

In their desire to improve the overseas recruitment industry, IPC has taken steps to facilitate faster visa processing and deployment. Godino reveals, "In the recruitment side of business, the challenge of the company would be how fast you can get your nurses deployed. And since we use work permits, we do it a lot faster than the other agencies. It's not easy to get a working permit."

This strategy seems to work since a US immigrant visa application has a longer processing time than a work permit. In the immigration process, upon passing all the examinations, which will take four to six months (for registration, scheduling, and release of results), the applicant will need to file them at the immigration office and wait for a minimum of 10 to a maximum of 18 months to two years.

Advocacy

As his advocacy, Godino takes it upon himself to help his countrymen as well as maintaining the integrity of the company. "In my position as division head, I have a free hand in selecting clients who are good employers and who offer a good package. A good technique to determine if they will be good clients is to charge them a professional service fee. If the clients refuse to pay this fee, it shows their limited financial capacity if they can't support so many workers in a two-year contract span."

GODINO ROGER CARPIO

Being in the business, Godino had a lot of opportunities to travel abroad and earn dollars, but this Conservatory of Music graduate opted to stay home and make a difference. "An oil company offered me a hefty salary but I declined it because I felt that I have a calling to help Filipinos go overseas and fulfill their dreams for a better life. It's not just the money. I would rather think of it as the satisfaction I receive from the immense gratitude of the person I helped which money can't buy. I like that feeling." And that's how he keeps the harmony and peace in his life.

Looking for your dream job?

JOIN "My Trabaho," a public service program to help people at work and jobseekers find their dream jobs.

Send a letter describing yourself, your strengths and weaknesses, and why you deserve to be selected as a beneficiary of this program, together with a bio-data and one 1X1 photo through postal mail to **"My Trabaho at Job Market,"** Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City. Or e-mail to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph. You can also handcarry your letter and biodata to any of Inquirer's Classified Ads branch offices in Metro Manila.

On Sept. 22 and Dec. 22, the next batches (30 letters per batch) will be picked (by drawing at random the letters). These 30 letter senders will be invited to attend a two-day Career Planning Workshop for free to be conducted by Career Systems, Inc. From these 30 letter senders, ten (10) will be selected by career mentors to be given the following assistance: a) Weekly career coaching sessions good for two months by a trained and qualified career mentor; b) Two (2) outfits suitable to the targeted job of the applicant; c) A makeover by a reputable grooming salon to prepare him/her for his/her first job interview; d) Free attendance in a two-day Resume Preparation/ Interview Seminar; e) Cash of P5,000 to be used in going to interviews, making letters of application and resumes, photos and other expenses that will be incurred in their job hunt for two months. For more information, call (632) 897-8808 local 237.

Ateneo CORD offers employee relations and well-being program

ATENEO CORD (Center for Organization Research and Development) is offering an Employee Relations and Well-Being Program on August 23 to 27. It is a five-day program aimed to provide HR practitioners and line managers with the concepts and strategies in cultivating, ensuring effective relations and employee well being. Modules include managing in the turbulent environment, employee relations, employee well-being and employee communication programs. For more information, contact: Ateneo CORD, 2/F Höffner Building, Social Development Complex, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City 1108, at telephone numbers 426-5931, 426-6282 and 426-6001 loc 5263 or fax 426-6065 or visit www.ateneocord.org.

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AMA's Leading with Emotional Intelligence

10-12 August, 2004
Makati Shangri-la Hotel

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Recent studies indicate that emotional intelligence is a powerful key to effective leadership. This valuable seminar delivers the in-depth knowledge and practical skills you need to ensure that you are a strong, emotionally intelligent leader. You will learn how to apply emotional intelligence to specific leadership situations to gain the authority and success you strive for as a leader. You will also keep current on cutting-edge developments in leadership theory and practice, to help you better collaborate and manage conflict.

Who Should Attend

Leaders who want to create an emotionally healthy, productive workplace and organizational culture, as well as enhance their ability to form trusting relationships. OD and HR professionals will particularly benefit from this seminar.

How You Will Benefit

- Gain an honest and accurate awareness of yourself
- Monitor and adapt your own emotions and behaviors for your benefit and that of your team and department
- Have a positive influence on the emotions and motivation of others
- Develop cohesive, emotionally intelligent teams
- Create an atmosphere that fosters emotional intelligence

What You Will Cover

- Emotional intelligence: the value of this concept to you and your organization
- Knowing how to build and strengthen your own and your team's emotional intelligence
- Shaping a leadership philosophy and style that enhances performance and organizational well-being
- Influencing, inspiring and motivating peers, subordinates, superiors
- Managing conflict with positive techniques

TRAINING INVESTMENT
PHP 24,750 - AMA/ECCP Member
PHP 27,225 - Non-Member

For further information, please call Jasmin Runez at telephone numbers 8451324 or 7596680 or e-mail at jrunez@eccp.com

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WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING BY A RESTAURANT AT THE FORT STRIP, GLOBAL CITY

One (1) EXECUTIVE CHEF

- Must have at least five (5) years of experience in the same capacity in a deluxe hotel or fine dining restaurant
- Must have extensive knowledge in Western, Filipino and fusion cuisine
- Experienced in menu development/planning, food costing and cost control

One (1) RESTAURANT MANAGER

- Graduate of a hotel restaurant management or any business related course
- Must have at least 5 years experience in the same capacity
- Experienced in the pre-opening of a restaurant
- Must have experience in catering management
- Knowledge in P&L an advantage
- Has good communication and marketing skills
- Experienced in training staff
- Must be willing to work on shift

One (1) HEAD BARTENDER

- Must have at least 5 years experience as head bartender
- Can develop beverages such as cocktails, coffee concoctions and a wine list for the restaurant
- Knowledge in the pre-opening of a restaurant an advantage
- Must be knowledgeable in beverage costing and control
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to work on shift

One (1) COFFEE SHOP SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of hotel and restaurant management or any business related course
- Must have at least 3 years experience in the same capacity
- Must know how to develop coffee concoctions
- Can handle people
- Has good communication skills
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to work on shift

One (1) ACCOUNTING CLERK

- College graduate
- Must have at least 1 year experience in bookkeeping and auditing

Consider this an opportunity for regular employment with good compensation and benefits.

Please send or bring your bio-data with 2"x2" ID picture to:

THEA MACEDA, House Manager
LOKALDERO HOLDINGS, INC.
3193-A Harvard St., Pinagkaisahan, Makati City
Telephone Number: 757-1754
or send it via e-mail to: theamaceda@yahoo.com

SALES ENGINEERS

Qualifications:

- Male or Female
- Mechanical Engineering graduate or an equivalent professional experience in the Metalcutting Industry
- Ability to operate Turning and Milling machines is an advantage
- Preferably with sales experience
- Computer literate
- Self motivated and result oriented

BON INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY
554 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila
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Fax no. 733-1534
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CORPORATION
5th Floor The Orient Square, Emerald
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recruitment@sviconnect.com
(subject: applicant <Reference Code>)

SVI CONNECT

is looking for college graduates of any bachelor's degree who have very strong professional values, great interpersonal skills and willing to work on shifting schedules for the following vacancies:

CONTACT CENTER AGENTS (Ref. Code:CCA)

- *Possesses excellent conversational English skills and keen listening skills*
- *Has the ability to read and understand scripts clearly; computer literate with knowledge on using the internet*
- *Very confident, aggressive, enthusiastic , assertive and self-motivated has strong work ethics*

OFF SHORE CLIENT PROGRAMMING MANAGER (Ref. Code: PROG MGR)

- *Supervises the Off Shore programmers who coordinate, write and maintain client scripts, reports and software necessary as they relate to the needs of our clients*
- *Earned a Bachelor's degree from a reputable university; or two to four years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience*
- *Must have two years appropriate supervisory/management experience of a team of programmers or a team of IT production/maintenance personnel*
- *Must be comfortable with the following scripting and programming languages; Visual Basic, Dbase, Visual Dbase, FoxPro, Excel, MS Access, SQL and UNIX*
- *Willing to work during the graveyard shift*

TRAINING MANAGER (Ref. Code: TRNG MGR)

- *With at least 2 years experience in training at a managerial / supervisory capacity in call center operations, customer relations and/or sales*
- *Possesses excellent English communication skills both in written and oral form*
- *Computer literate with basic knowledge on using the internet*

TEAM LEADERS (Ref. Code: TL)

- *With at least 1 year experience in call center operations, customer relations and/or sales*
- *Possesses excellent English communication skills both in written and oral form*
- *Enthusiastic, creative and can motivate people*
- *Computer literate with basic knowledge on using the internet*

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Working knowledge : Philippine Accounting and Taxation Laws; computerized accounting system

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Experience Required : At least 4 years experience in similar positions.
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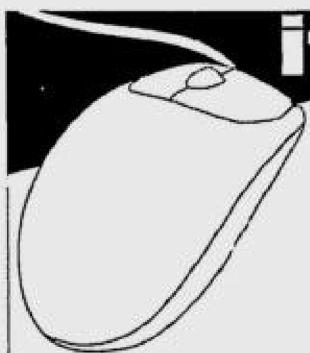

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What call centers are looking for

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

By Candy G. Villanueva

THE ALLURE of a high starting salary and a fun dynamic environment is pulling droves of young hopefuls to try their luck in the call center industry. When everybody else is packing off to strange lands looking for greener pastures and green dollar bills, labor outsourcing have given us another option. This booming trend offers another way to earn amounts almost equivalent to dollar values without stepping off the old shore.

Providers of outsourced services, call centers represent clients from abroad. It is a rising industry that offers opportunities for advancement and high financial payoff. Many claim that working for call centers also boost their level of confidence and improve their communication skills.

Because of these reasons, the line towards the contact centers' doors is long. Before you consider the queue, it's important to review your goals and qualifications. Here's a short checklist to help you decide if the call center world is really for you.

Communication and computer skills

First and foremost, you should have an excellent grasp of the English language. If you are having trouble with your written and verbal skills, then you would be better off reassessing your career goals.

Since the major client of the industry is the English-speaking community, impeccable English is a must. If you can adapt to the American twang, then so much the better. Some companies even train agents to speak with an American accent.

Be mindful of your Ps and Fs and make sure you don't confuse your Bs with your Vs. Elementary as it may sound, call centers are particular about diction. Most call centers provide speech training to work on your communication skills but you must be able to speak fluent English to start with.

Some companies do their screening on the phone. Make sure you've done your homework before picking up the phone. Practice with a friend. Read aloud. Singers and debaters exercise their tongue and throat before every performance. You can benefit from this exercise as well.

Computer literacy is also a must since agents rely on computers for their daily transactions with clients.

No experience required

The good news is, not all call centers require experience. Some like RMH for example do not even look for a college degree. As long as they fit the bill, RMH puts little focus on experience and educational background. In fact, a study by John Clements Consultants claims that most call centers prefer students or graduates from second tier universities. Their studies show that agents from top universities like La Salle, Ateneo and UP do not stay with the contact centers long because they have high expectations.

Age is also a minor consideration for contact centers. Although agents are considered as front liners, they only connect with clients through calls. This means that as long as you communicate effectively, physical attributes like age and appearance do not matter. Similarly, the industry does not discriminate on the differently-abled because it is not a physical job.

Graveyard shift

Are you up to altering your body clock? If you don't mind sleeping while the sun is up high and starting your day when the rest of the world has gone to sleep, then the call center world is for you.

A call center career calls for a lifestyle change. Ambergris Solutions is looking for agents who have flexible schedules. Because call centers work on different time zones, agents must be willing to work on graveyard shifts. If safety is an issue, most call centers provide shuttle rides or rest areas where agents can sleep over until its safe enough to commute home.

Fast-paced pressure

"The pressure in the call center environment is double or even triple," says Sykes Asia's Daisy Aquino. True, the financial rewards are quite blinding, but the payback is just as steep. Although the work environment is casual and relaxed for most contact centers, much is expected from its employees. Especially if you're at the front end, you will be expected to be quick, responsive and resourceful. You should be able to answer most of the questions thrown at you without delay or quickly resolve problems. If you are slow and indecisive, there is a long line of applicants waiting to fill in your swivel chair and take over your headset.

"This is definitely the industry to get into if you want to be in the forefront of where the real action is. Everything is always right here, right now, done yesterday," confirms Cherry Manalo-Pacleb of Vision X. "This should be something that you feel passionate about because if you're just in it for the money or the thrill of being at the center of it all, then you're definitely in the wrong place to succeed."

Strong gutted

Don't take work personally. If you are the sensitive type who would crack at every bark, then you probably would be better off applying as a school guidance counselor. Sensitivity has no place in the call center environment.

There had been several incidents when agents were found crying after a long draining encounter with a difficult caller. "It's just a voice at the other end of the line," claims a call center supervisor. You should never take it personally. Otherwise, you would dread every ring of the phone.

Most westerners, Americans specifically, are straightforward, blunt and sometimes impatient. Be prepared to be snapped at if you start answering a question with a stammer or a stutter. You should know what you're doing and know the business like it was your own. Difficult queries should not rattle you. If you do not know the answer, then you must be resourceful and confident enough to assure your caller that his or her concern will be addressed soon.

Customer Service

"You are our front-line ambassadors, evangelists who come in contact with our customers before anyone else in our organization," reminds a representative from Epixtar. So if you're anti-social and do not have the stomach to deal with angry impatient clients everyday, then maybe you should think twice about being a call center agent.

It's a people-oriented and result-oriented job where you are expected to assist callers whether for directory assistance or technical queries. You should be able to handle calls gracefully and efficiently even when the person at the other line is cussing at you in a foreign language. Listening skills gives you an edge.

Know the culture

Most call centers service the top Fortune 500 companies in the US so most of the clients you will be dealing with are Americans. They assume that the people helping them at the other end are also Americans.

Know the country. This means familiarizing your self with America's 52 states. If a client claims he's from Baltimore, you should know that it's in Maryland and somewhere in the east coast. You don't necessarily have to know who Lewis and Clark are but your knowledge in geography will definitely come in handy.

You should also be mindful of time zones because while a New Yorker is just about ready to have dinner at the Upper East Village, your client in California is still having an afternoon espresso break in San Francisco.

All in all, it's a tough order but for most, the rewards are endless. As Sudendra Rao of Epixtar would put it, "This is a job with an attitude and I believe that your attitude can take you to a much higher altitude in your success path. I know people who started their career as call center agents, team leaders and trainers just a few years ago and today they are leading the industry. The sky is the limit in this fast-growing industry."

'I do not know what to do with my life'

By Ernie O. Cecilia

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I WAS taking up an electronics communications engineering course in 2000 when our family encountered severe financial problems. I had to work as a service crew in a fast food chain. My studies suffered and I failed in all my subjects during one semester. This made me lose interest in my studies.

In 2003, I quit school and enrolled in a caregiver course. However, I was not able to get my certificate because I could not pay the fees in full. Despite this, I was lucky to be hired as live-in caregiver to an old diabetic lady. I soon felt bad about this job—I was trying to be an engineer and I ended up being treated like a housemaid.

I resigned as caregiver and got hired by a Makati-based company as temporary replacement of a secretary to a Korean boss. I didn't like the way my officemates treated me since they passed on almost everything to me. When the secretary came back (from being AWOL), she shared the job with me but I still did most of the work, especially the more menial jobs, while the rest would just chat and take off from work for long hours. And I was only getting minimum wage while the rest were more highly paid.

I am really confused with what to do with my life. Can I still get hired even as an engineering technician? Should I pursue my caregiver studies and career? Will I settle for a secretarial or clerical job?

Lost Career Lady

I am not surprised that you are confused about what to do with your life. I know several 60-year olds who still don't know what they want to do. I also know some successful people who didn't know what to do when they were your age but moved on to find their niche and succeeded later in life in what they do best.

While you don't have to be apologetic about not knowing now what you want to do with your life, sooner or later, you need to grapple with that dilemma if you really want to succeed at all. One of the factors of success is knowing early what one wants to do in life.

Do not be hampered by your present job. Many people think that they have no choice when they get their job. That is not true. You have a choice—to work or not to work, where to work,

IDO/P. 11

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

What's inside

HR Focus: Exec advocates good practices in recruitment industry p. 8
How to practice smooth interactions at work p. 11

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

A taste of honey

By Teresa R. Tunay

STUDY the situation of certain overseas contract workers (OCWs) and you will notice that often, what starts as a noble intention ends up ignoble when the factor of ego satisfaction comes into play. Take the case of Aleli, who once worked in the domestic staff of a royal household in Saudi Arabia. Her father had tuberculosis and could not find employment; her mother ran a small *sari-sari* store in their neighborhood. With a generous heart, she left the Philippines with the intention of helping her parents send her four siblings to school. Regarded as a heroine in her community, she was given an airport sendoff by practically the whole *barangay*.

Years passed. Life for Aleli's family gradually became comfortable. Their first major purchase was a car bought on installment. Then they moved to a "better neighborhood." Their home displayed the hallmarks of success OCW-style: imported appliances and food items, trendy brand clothing, state-of-the-art "toys" (cell phones, computer games, etc.). But it didn't stop at that. They got a second car and the siblings would not be satisfied anymore with year-old cell phones or clothes bought on sale. Aleli herself developed a taste for expensive jewelry, having been exposed to her mistress's collection of dazzlers. Meanwhile, two of the siblings dropped out of school, having no direction in life.

Where is Aleli's family headed for? It's almost predictable. Note how generosity turns to greed while no one's looking. For Aleli and her family, the taste of honey led to sugar addiction. We all know what harm too much sugar can do to our health. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel: Luke 12: 13-21

Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

Working against poverty

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

POVERTY is one of the evils, which the majority of our workers and our people for that matter, suffer in our country today. In fact, national surveys done recently show that "63 percent of the Filipinos are poor." The misery of so many people in both our cities and rural villages is so glaring that it calls everyone including the poor themselves to action. What does a simple, poor worker do to alleviate his impoverished condition and that of others?

The fight against poverty should start by rooting out the evil within us, which, even if we are not constantly aware of it, is the source of so much poverty for the majority of people not only in our country but also practically in the whole world. Jesus points out to us the root cause of poverty when He warns all of us to "guard against all greed." Just as we engage in work to eliminate poverty in our midst, every worker, therefore, must also eliminate greed from his heart. Greed drives a person to work relentlessly in amassing things for himself without thinking of the others and even to the extent of depriving the others of the necessities in life.

A worker fights against greed and consequently against poverty when he learns how to share, to care and above all to love. A worker who goes to work to share his talents and his whole person with his coworkers and to contribute lovingly to the company goals, will get more enriched. The more "enriched workers" abound in the workplaces of our country, the less poverty there will be. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

How to practice smooth interactions at work

By Doug Hissong

DOES your office run like a well-oiled machine? Is it an efficient and pleasant place? Have you thought about what you can do to smooth those everyday interactions that have such an impact on productivity? Let me suggest a few ideas.

Consideration

I was watching my son as he started to wash the family car on our driveway. As he started, he noticed that water was running toward where a neighbor was cutting his grass. Realizing the water would cause the neighbor's grass to clog in the gutter, he moved the car to the other side of the driveway to channel the water in another direction. I thought, "Wouldn't it be nice if everyone were willing to make little changes that would make things easier for someone else? "

How can we be more considerate of our coworkers? We can make things a little easier for them as we communicate by phone or e-mail. We can leave our phone number with a message so they don't have to look it up, return calls promptly, and avoid prolonged "telephone tag." We can structure our e-mails so they can easily forward or otherwise handle them. We can think through and present options rather than just dumping a problem on someone.

We can be considerate of someone's situation and feelings when we ask him or her to do something for us. We can say:

"I know you're busy, but ... (I hope you can do my job soon)

"I know this isn't the most enjoyable kind of work for you, but ... (I hope you'll do it anyway)

He or she will be more likely to do what we ask if he thinks we understand his situation and feelings. It shows that we care about him, not just about what we want.

We can be considerate in the things we say to others. And we can also be considerate by what we don't say. We can avoid saying something that will hurt him, and that includes situations when the subject isn't present.

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Feedback

When someone helps us prepare a presentation, we can later tell him or her how it went. Then he will know we appreciated his help and will see more of the big picture. He will be more willing to help next time if he knows his work didn't just disappear down a black hole.

We can emphasize praise and encouragement over criticism (which some very famous and successful people have found ineffective anyway). If we talk with our coworkers regularly and praise their work when things are going well, then they'll be more receptive to solving a problem when one arises. (Like if you have regular friendly chats with your neighbor it will be easier when your kid hits a ball through his window.) If the only interactions are negative ones, they won't be very effective. We need to build rapport before we can make corrections.

We can be sure that we do our share of the work rather than just dumping it on others. When we work with someone, rather than making him do it all, we build rapport and we help train him to do it the way we think it should be done. As we gain experience, more and more of our contribution should come from mentoring and training others. We should take pride in what we pass on to others. What we help others do is an important part of our own contribution to the world. And there's that practical matter that if we help others, they'll be more willing to help us.

Little things

There are many "little things" that smooth our interpersonal relationships. One is using other people's names. We can do better with a little effort. We can anticipate situations so we'll be prepared with the names of those we're dealing with. We can focus on names as we hear them so we'll remember them.

We can smile, speak to people, and generally be pleasant. Nothing makes us look better than a smile. We can be courteous, which is just a means of showing respect for others. We can keep a positive and enthusiastic attitude and pass it on to everyone we meet.

(Reprinted with permission from hr-info.com. For more information e-mail Daniel Hissong at dhisso@ev1.net.)

'I do not know what to do with my life'

From page 10

what work to do. You have shown this when you moved from one job to another. The jobs you took were not forced on you!

The idea is to choose the job that will give you satisfaction, rewards and a good chance of experiencing some success. Find out what type of work makes you happy. What kind of a person are you? Do you like people, things or ideas? If you are a person who likes people, you could most likely succeed in jobs that deal with customers or serve other employees. If you like things, you could succeed in operations jobs. If you like ideas, you might want to try jobs in product design and development or related areas.

Know your strengths, competencies, interests and inclinations. Look back to what you did at home, in school, with friends, at work or at play where you thought you were successful and happy. There must be something that you are good at. That should give you an idea of the kind of productive work that you are most comfortable with and happy to do.

Do not be "deceived" by your work experiences. Many employees get stuck in careers that they don't want because they highlight in their resumes their past work experiences which indicates what they can do rather than what they want to do. If you look for jobs based on your past experience alone (you had been a caregiver), you might end up a caregiver again, something that you hate to do now.

So, do a more thorough soul-searching to find out what you really love to do. As a word of caution, do not try to find the "real you" because there may not be one. What you may find is a person in transition. Sometimes, you might even find different "selves" changing with the times and the circumstances. Try to be comfortable with that ambiguity and instead focus on becoming the "self" that you wish to become.

Consider all these when you think about your "dream job." Your "dream job" must be something that you would love to do, will give you enough rewards and satisfaction, help you grow as a person, and make you feel proud because you know that you are creating value for others. Then, find out where you can get this dream job, know the job specifications, make a resume that shows why you are most qualified for the job, send the resume with a personalized cover letter, and prepare for the interview.

If you go back to college, choose a course that can help you achieve your dream job. Take your education seriously, learn as much as you can, and try to get good grades that can help boost your qualification and confidence. You don't have to pursue a career if you hate it.

Here are some pointers to remember about your career:

- You can't have a dream come true, unless you first have a dream.
- If you don't know where you want to go, no road will take you there.
- Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.
- Do what you love and love what you do.
- Love it or leave it.

Career Quote for the Week:

"Some job applicants simply can't wait to find the right job. They 'take the first bus that comes along' even if they know that it will not bring them to their desired destination." (Ernie O. Cecilia, FPM, "How to Get a Job," 2000)

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a business and human resource consulting firm. He served as president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines in 1999. Send feedback to erniec@edsamail.com.ph.)

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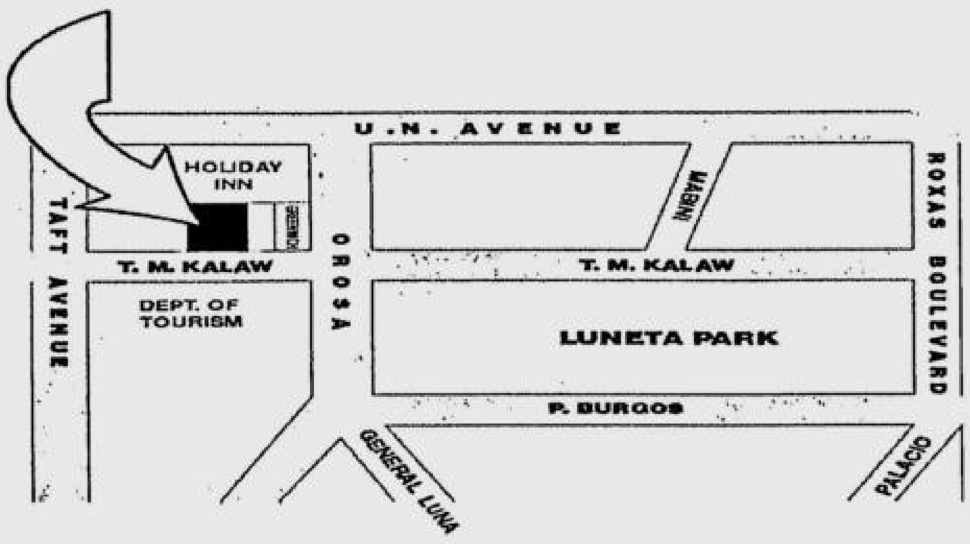

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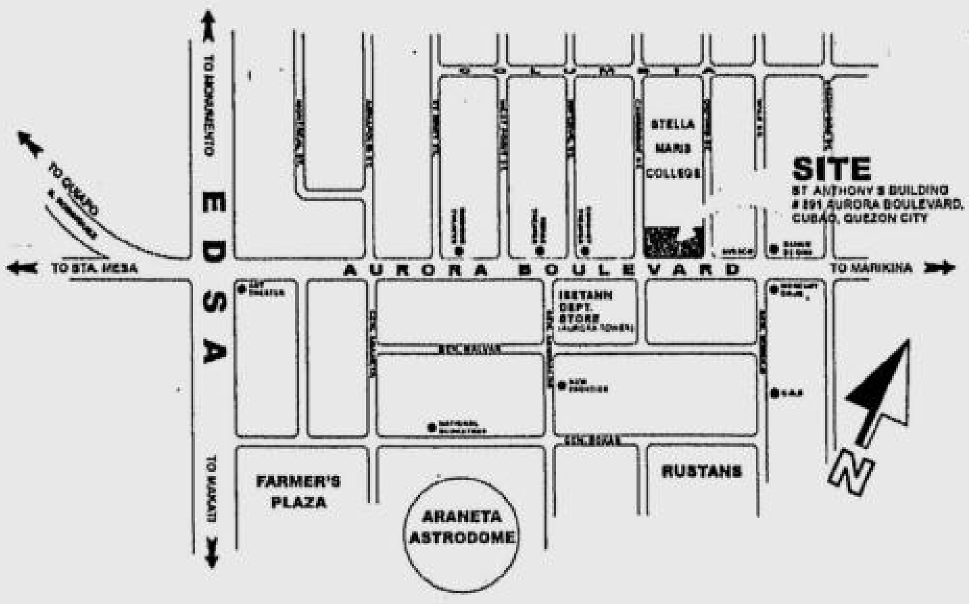

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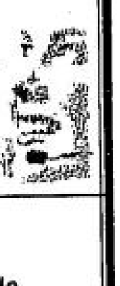

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sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
magazine
August 1, 2004

The Defiant Ones

Polio crippled the limbs but not the spirit of Filipino Paralympians Adeline Dumapong-Ancheta and Agustin Kitan, who dream of a medal finish and better lives after the Athens Paralympics

By Ruel S. De Vera
Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

THEIR upper bodies are so massive—with biceps the size of hams and shoulders to rival those of the mythical Atlas—that it is easy to forget that they need wheelchairs to get around. Adeline Dumapong-Ancheta and Agustin Kitan look like action figures on wheels, on whose shoulders will rest the weight of a nation's impossible dream in September.

Powerlifters Dumapong-Ancheta and Kitan comprise the Philippine delegation to the 12th Paralympics in Athens, Greece. Held two weeks after the Summer Olympics in the host city, the Paralympics are the ultimate stage for the world's best disabled athletes and, as the Philippines always does regardless of the odds, we take our shot. Dumapong-Ancheta and Kitan are our best—and yet that may not be enough. Both have endured a life of such constant adjustment and transcendence, it is hard not to root for them.

Kiangan, Ifugao native Dumapong-Ancheta, 30, contracted polio when she was only 3. "I have very vague recollections of being able to walk, like running around and playing," she recalls. The third of six children, Dumapong-Ancheta considers herself a very competitive person. "I grew up in a family where we were all treated equally," she says, recalling heated Scrabble battles with her siblings. "We know

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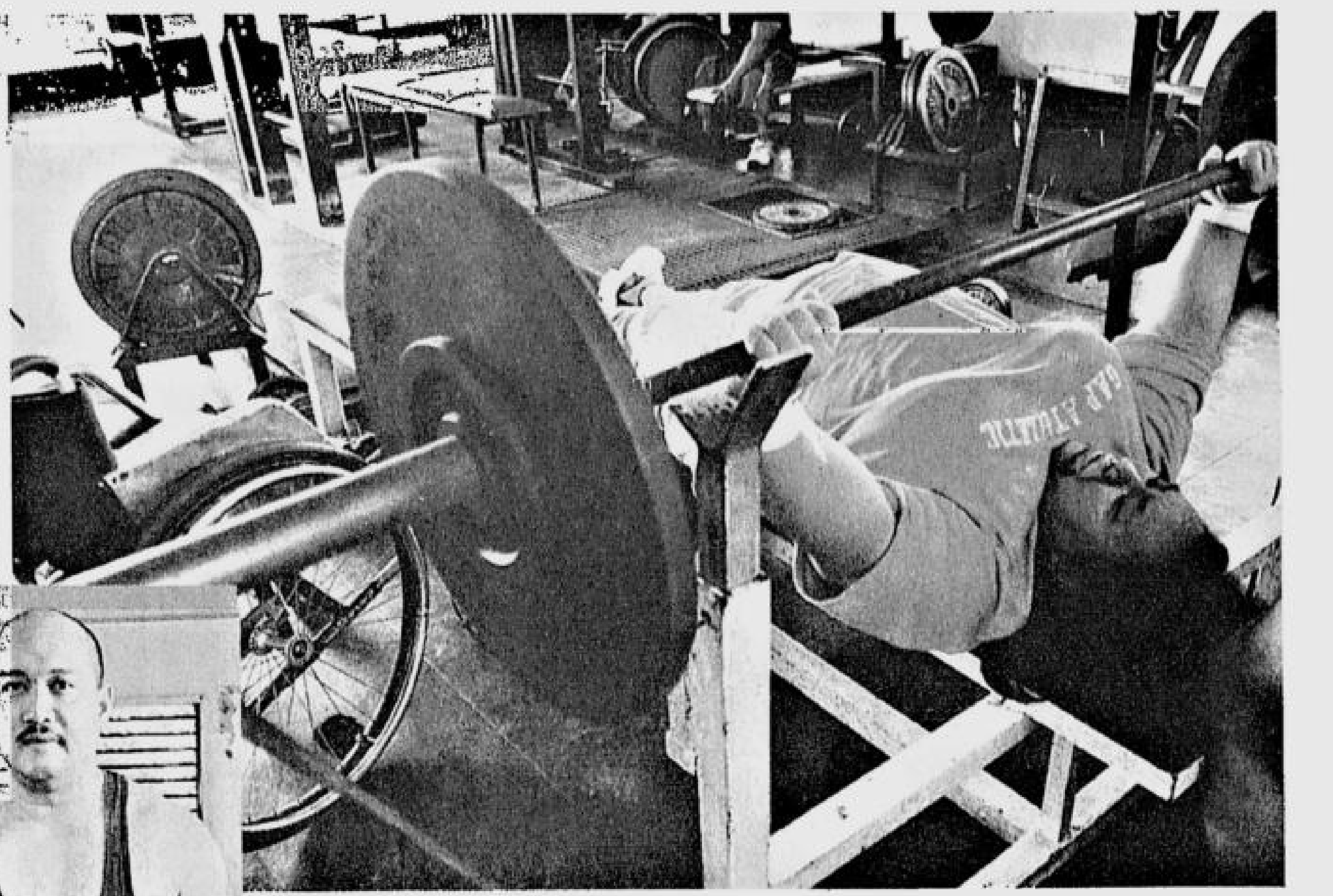
Cyber Gadfly
by Eric S. Caruncho, *p.4*

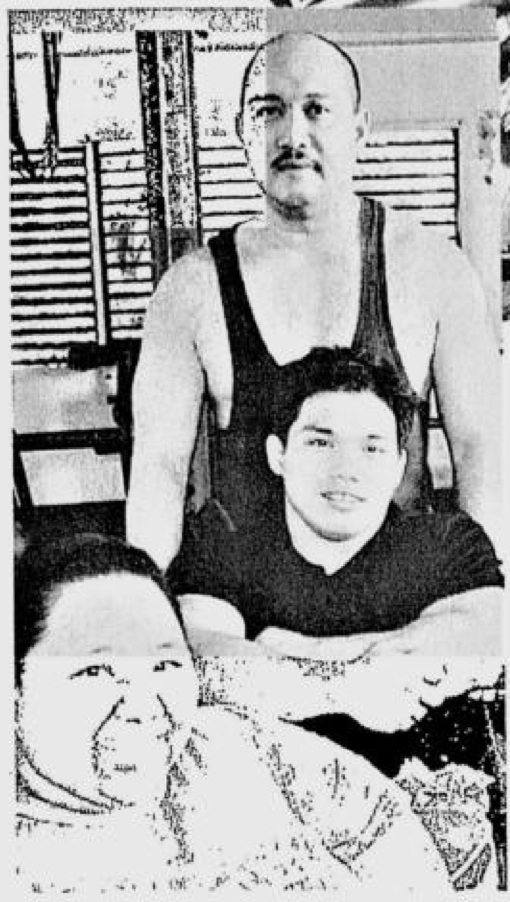
Her Love of Flying
by Madonna T. Virola, *p.6*

A New Communion for a New World
by Fr. Ruben J. Villote.

The Defiant

...from page 1





Dumapong-Ancheta (right) takes her turn at the bench; below, the Paralympians with their coach, Ramon Debuque

that our parents had expectations from us, so we tried to meet those expectations."

At 6, she entered Bahay Mapagmahal, a center at the Philippine Orthopedic Hospital run by the ICM sisters for disabled children—and it was there that she discovered sports. "The nun running Bahay Mapagmahal was really into sports, and she made it a point to involve all the kids," Dumapong-Ancheta explains.

She was into different sports, including the wheelathon (wheelchair race), but it was in 1997, when she was in her twenties, that she first took up powerlifting. She had been, in her words, "lying low" after graduating from St. Paul's College Quezon City with a degree in BS Computer Education in 1995. "I had gained weight and a friend suggested I take up powerlifting," Dumapong-Ancheta says.

An amazing experience

And she proved to be a tough customer. She bench-pressed her way to winning some 14 local tilts. She soon began gathering medals in international meets. The Far East and South Pacific Games. The Malaysian Paralympiad. But the highlight of Dumapong-Ancheta's career thus far was the bronze medal she took at the 2000 Sydney Paralympics, the first ever Paralympic medal for the Philippines. Seeing the Philippine flag rise in Sydney was a truly amazing experience, she says, considering that it was the first time a Philippine delegation was sent to the event. "That was really the highlight for me. When I saw that flag being raised, I cried. I was so proud."

Dumapong-Ancheta is used to the fact that most people aren't really aware of the Paralympics. "Ever since I was young, I was used to small audiences at our events and never thought about becoming famous when I took up this sport." But being a Paralympian, she does enjoy one perk: "I love traveling." She also gets to travel to other countries through her music; Dumapong-Ancheta is part of a group called Rondalla, a musical group of disabled people. She claims to enjoy reading "anything about life," but her current favorite author is Maeve Binchey. A cheerful presence, Dumapong-Ancheta can also be impatient with herself. "The standards I accord to other people, I accord to myself."

She used to work for PHILSPADA (Philippine Sports Association for the Differently-Abled), which is effectively the national sport association for disabled athletes. She has also worked for a call center and a marketing firm. Regular jobs were a necessity but interfered with her training, as she received no funding when she wasn't actually preparing for a meet.

Today, Dumapong-Ancheta is working hard to get back into shape for the coming Athens Paralympics while subsisting on a meager stipend from the government. "It's really not enough," she explains. So she works together with her husband, doing odd jobs to make ends meet. Dumapong-Ancheta owns up to spending more time as a "full-time mom" to 2-year-old Alyssa, than as an athlete. She married Edwin Ancheta, an amputee who assembles wheelchairs, in 2002.

Heavy metal

But this overcast afternoon, she is hard at work, lifting weights equal to that of several people at a small gym in Cubao. Paralympian powerlifters bench-press, meaning they lie down on a bench and, from that prone position, lift barbells off racks. The gym resounds with the sound of heavy metal rising and falling, of grunts and exhortations, the anthem of aspiration.

In one corner, Kitan takes his turn at the rack. Quiet and reserved but with a ready smile, Agustin "Barok" Kitan turns 28 on August 6. Born in Baguio, the youngest of three children of farmer parents, Kitan contracted polio at 2 and has no memory of his able-bodied past. He traveled to Tahanang Walang Hagdan in Cainta, Rizal when he was 13 and took up elementary school there. He managed to finish second-year high school at Immaculate Conception in Cubao before buckling down to a job making wheelchairs. Then he got involved in sports. From 1993 to 1997, he raced wheelchairs. He even played basketball for the national team.

But like Dumapong-Ancheta, Kitan found his niche in powerlifting, winning the bronze in Hanoi last December. Kitan can lift 125 kilos--that's 275 pounds. "I'm excited but I'm also worried because I feel like we lack time for training," he says in Filipino. He's been married to Marivic, a polio victim herself who uses a cane, for two years now, and they have one child, 1-year-old John Martin. Kitan explains that since he and Dumapong-Ancheta weren't born with polio, it isn't carried in their genes so that their respective children are able-bodied. He hopes to be able to save enough money to have his own business. "That's really my dream. These games don't last forever," he says.

Kitan doesn't really have any hobbies but says he loves to sleep. "I'm just a simple person," he says. Kitan is based in Baguio where he makes school chairs in a cooperative for the disabled and goes down to Manila to visit his wife and child who live in a Department of Social Welfare and Development facility. "It's easier for the disabled to be in Manila than in the province. Things are getting better here."

Grueling routine

These days, it is a Herculean challenge for Kitan to even practice. Because he lives in Cogeo, Rizal, Kitan wheels himself an unbelievable seven kilometers to the MRT station in Santolan along Marcos Highway to take the train. Upon arriving in Cubao, he disembarks and then wheels himself an additional kilometer to the gym near the Ramon Magsaysay High School. The grueling routine, Paralympic powerlifting coach Ramon Debuque explains, works against Kitan as it saps his strength even before he can start his lifting exercises. "It's fine for endurance sports but this is a power sport," Debuque says. Kitan does this twice a week.

Debuque has been working with Dumapong-Ancheta and Kitan from the start of the Paralympians' involvement in the sport. He has a rather blunt assessment of the Philippine team's chances in Athens: "They don't have any chance," he says, pointing to the lack of a continuous training program, at least for elite lifters like Dumapong-Ancheta, and the lack of funds. "We don't have a budget except for three months before a meet." Debuque points to genetics as being behind the Filipinos' success in regional meets, and explains that the level of competition has gotten much higher since Dumapong-Ancheta's medal performance in Australia. A year-round stipend would be truly helpful in enabling them to train year-round, he suggests. "They're both dedicated and are very competitive, giving their best in training and actual competition," Debuque says of the paralympians.

Debuque notes that a powerlifter's peak is the mid-thirties, so Dumapong-Ancheta has a good chance to get there. "I hope she doesn't stop training so that by the next Paralympics, she can be a top contender." Kitan, however, is another story. "The level of competition for men is higher but he is relatively strong." Kitan, Debuque explains, faces many financial obstacles, particularly when he's in Baguio. "Like our other Olympians, except for the boxers, they're all long shots."

Off to Athens

Says Dumapong-Ancheta: "I really don't know about our chances, but then again, I also didn't know I would win the bronze but I did. So I just do the best I can." She is pumped for this coming Paralympics, particularly about journeying to historic Athens. "I had been reading about Athens since high school. It's the home of the Olympics! I'm really looking forward to seeing the tourist spots and meeting the other Paralympians."

She does admit to feeling some pressure because she was a past medallist. "I really got left behind by the other competitors because my training wasn't continuous," says Dumapong-Ancheta. She is competing in the 75.1 to 82.5 kg category in Athens, a heavier category than the 75-and-under category she won the bronze in back in Sydney. "I lifted 110 kilos," she says, smiling as she recalls the feat.

For Kitan, being in Athens is a big deal, this being his first time to travel out of Asia. "I haven't left yet, and I'm already happy," he says with a laugh. He hopes against hope for a win somehow, for that might enable him to stay in the sport. "But I have problems because the allowance isn't enough, especially for us who have families." If the money runs dry, he will have to quit to focus on feeding his family. "If I were single, things would be different, but I have a family."

Despite the hectic preparations for the Paralympics, the two athletes know that they give a face (and quite some muscle) to disabled Filipinos, and they take their roles seriously. Dumapong-Ancheta believes that the Paralympians, often lost in the blaze of glory from able-bodied Olympians, deserve to be recognized. "That's the ideal situation, but I think the media and the Philippine Sports Commission should at least treat us equally." That's how Debuque treats them, aside from when he assists them in putting the weights back on the racks. "As far as training is concerned, I don't treat them any differently. They give as much as the regular athletes, if not more."

Dreams and wheels

And their dreams die hard, undaunted by coffers running low or the wheelchair's lonely trek along highways where cars whiz dangerously close. Except for those dreams, Dumapong-Ancheta doesn't consider herself particularly noteworthy. "I do persevere and I believe that my perseverance and hard work bear fruit. But I have yet to come to terms with living an extraordinary life. I hear that term a lot. I'm grateful for all the blessings, but anybody, disabled or not, who works hard can achieve the same things."

Fortunately, their dreams aren't trapped in a wheelchair. For Adeline Dumapong-Ancheta's and Agustin Kitan's dreams carry a nation's hope despite a lifetime of naysayers saying they can't do it. Their dreams will wheel breathlessly into Athens and then—faster, higher, stronger—they will take flight. Q

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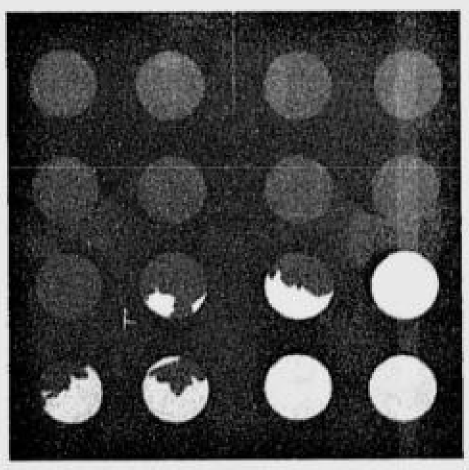

BINARY CONCEPTS Amy Aragon and Jay Ticar are holding a two-man show, "A Table Set For My Enemies," at Mag:net Gallery QC, The Loop, ELJ Center, ABS-CBN Compound, until today. The exhibit is composed of large and small scale works, from paintings to installations. Shown in photo is Ticar's "Missing Pieces." *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Trees

I promise you love. Time will not take away that.
—Anne Sexton, "The Fortress"

We reach
The spot where long ago
We stood
Together watching
Sky, cloud, sun
Over trees
Growing.
You held me
So close
Within the bounds,
Strong clasp
Of your hands
The way leaves
Hold,
Contain the day's
Light.

Now
We stand
So small beneath these very tall
Trees grown
Old
Along path of grass,
Weed once beaten
By our football
Now feet made weary
Yet alive
By this re-
Traversing
A familiar trail:
Trodden tracks
Beneath branch, trunk
Standing still
Braving
Even the most fierce
Of wind, rain
And storm.

We can hardly gaze
Yet see
Them: sky,
Cloud wind-blown,
Sun
Moving past this
Mountain-
Top, forest
At ease
As we are
Here—you still holding
Me close as ever,
Watching
As we have been—
Salmon sky
Dimming,
Giving way
To dark,
Night
Brightening—
Stars
Glitter
In our eyes.

Felino S. Garcia, Jr.

Nekro-Mansa

Paralumang puti sa bahay ng sakit.
Haplos ng ginhawa ang bawat mong dampi.
May dagta ng sugat ang iyong pag-ibig.

Pag-irog ko sa 'yong hindi mo malirip.
Sa laman ng dunong mo naipagtahi.
Paralumang puti sa bahay ng sakit.

Makirot kong rubdob na nananahimik,
May mukhang kilalang panibugho't sidhi.
May dagta ng sugat ang iyong pag-ibig.

Anupa't hiwagang hindi mapapahid
Ng luha't hinayang ang ika'y masawi.
Paralumang puti sa bahay ng sakit.

Bulak na piniga itong aking dibdib
Nang ika'y gayatin ng aking daliri.
May dagta ng sugat ang iyong pag-ibig.

Bangkay kang marahang nilambing ng awit.
Na kumpas ay talim sa bitukang usli.
Paralumang puti sa bahay ng sakit,
May dagta ng sugat ang iyong pag-ibig.

30 Setyembre 2002
Cavite

Jose Jason L. Chancoco

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Caller Ringtunes and Giftunes are here to spice up your celfone experience even more!

In January, SMART was the first to give you the ability to express yourself before you even answer your phone. That was the idea behind SMART Caller Ringtunes. Now, SMART brings you some new smart ideas that will get your heart pumping even faster!

You've probably heard your favorite stars respond as a caller ringtune when calling a friend before. Then how great would it be to have two stars answer your phone calls for you?! SMART 2-in-1 Caller Ringtunes gives you that amazing benefit. What girl wouldn't enjoy having basketball idol John Ferriols and hunky Troy Montero welcoming their friends right before they answer? For the guys, wouldn't it be great to have a fantastic pair of hotties like Aubrey Miles and Ara Mina telling your pals how much they love you before you say hello? That's exactly what SMART 2-in-1 Caller Ringtunes provides. Now, your buddies will love to call you up even more. Get two stars and double your ringtune fun!

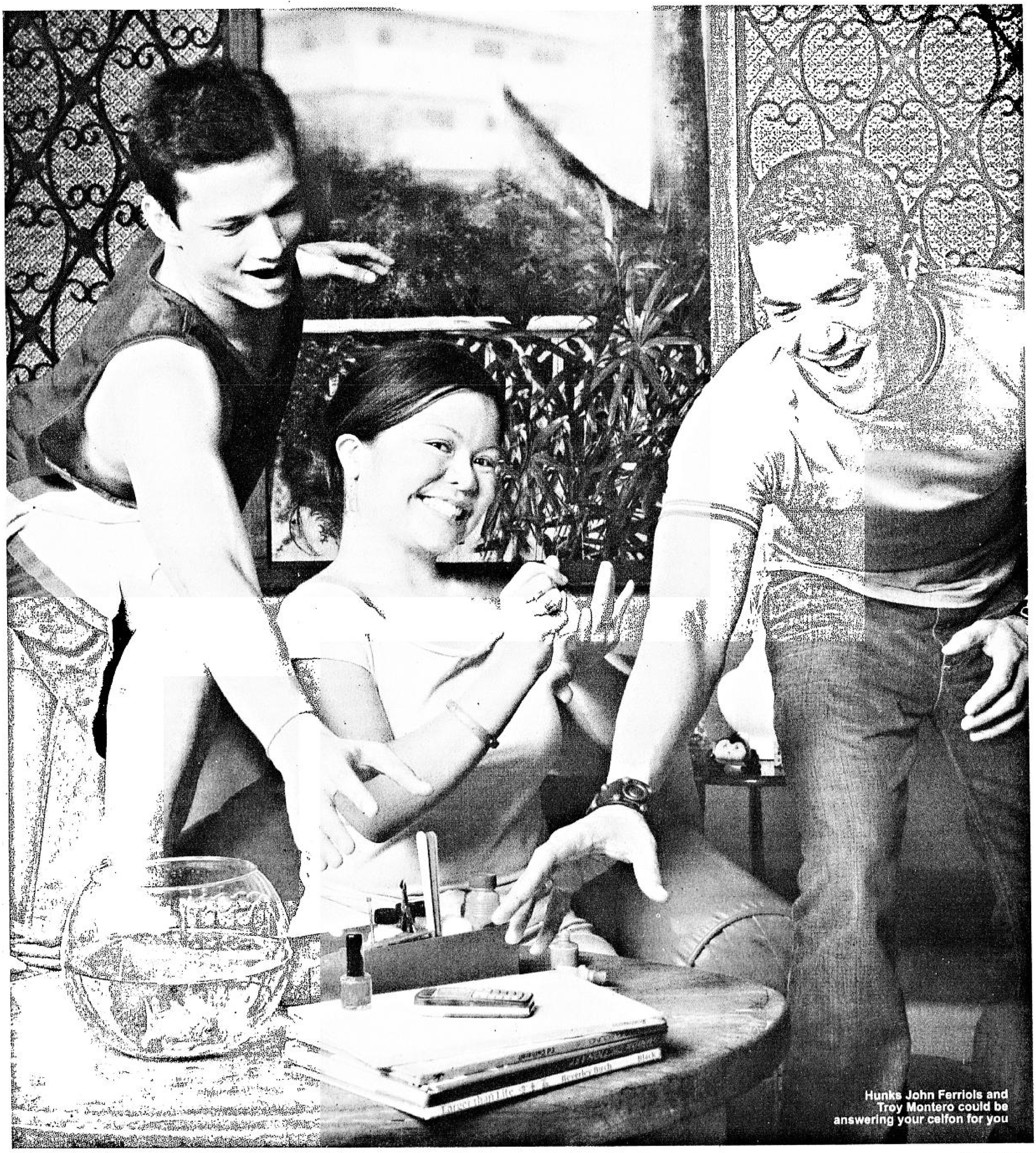
Now that Caller Ringtunes have taken the country by storm, have you ever felt like giving a ringtune away as a gift? Say you want to hear South Border's "Rainbow" when you call your boyfriend, or you can't get enough of a joke you've heard as a ringtune. You can now send that ringtune to your friends and loved ones! SMART Giftune lets you give a friend any SMART ringtune. Just use your imagination

Before you even say hello, you can express yourself with music, jokes, spoofs, as well as sound effects. Just key in WHATSNEW and send to 286 to get a sample list of the many ringtunes at your disposal. To get the 2-in-1 Caller Ringtune, key in RING ADD <ring ID> and send to 286. To send a giftune, text RING GIFT <ring ID><friend's celfone number>, send to 286. You can also get instructions via interactive voice recording by simply calling 1513.

So. double your ringtune fun and give a gift as well. SMART 2-in-1 Caller Ringtunes and Giftunes are here to spice up your celfone experience even more!

SMART
2-in-1
STAR

GIFTUNE



Hunks John Ferriols and
Troy Montero could be
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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Netizens

By Eric S. Caruncho

Cyber Gadfly

Music man Gerry Kaimo has become the David of the Internet, taking on corporate giants and using the web to air protests on issues from corruption to East Timor

WWW.PLDT.COM

RUDY ESPERAS

GERRY Kaimo has a knack for pissing off—some would say on—the right people. The man is now a legend in local Internet circles as the warped brain behind pldt.com, a satirical website whose savagely funny attacks on corrupt politicians, big business and dictatorial foreign governments has won a following here and among expatriate Filipinos. Now in its fifth year, the site still gets an average of 22,000 visitors a month. This is down from its peak during the Edsa Dos uprising, when it served as the virtual Plaza Miranda for cyber-activists attempting to send the Estrada administration and its cronies to the recycle bin with their keyboards and mousepads, but it is still a respectable number. It has also won numerous awards, including the 1999 Webby People's Choice award for Weird/Humor. (Talk about weird humor: That year's awards show was sponsored by PLDT, among others.) "We're still touching lives," says Kaimo with a wink.

It has won Kaimo some powerful enemies, as well. One can only imagine PLDT's displeasure when they first opened the site only to find the slogan "TORTURING LIVES" flashing underneath the pldt.com logo, followed by the disclaimer: "100 % PURE PINOY: UNADULTERATED ANGST, PAIN, HORROR, TEARS, RUMORS, LAUGHTER AND LIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY OR YOUR MONEY BACK!"

In 1999, PLDT filed a P1.35-million lawsuit against Kaimo, charging him with "unauthorized use of trademark" and—oddly enough—"unfair competition," among other things. Kaimo shot back with his own P50-million countersuit for wrongful suit and moral damages.

Of course, many of his friends thought he was crazy for butting heads with a corporate behemoth like PLDT in the first place. That may very well be; his mobile phone's ring tone is the "Looney Tunes" theme, and he can be a madman at the wheel of his vintage, fire-engine-red 1974 Toyota Land Cruiser.

Unlikely Don Quixote

More than mere *cojones*, there may well be method to his madness. Although, as Kaimo is fond of saying, "it ain't over until the fat lady sings," he seems to have won the opening skirmish. Last year, the Quezon City RTC judge hearing the case threw out PLDT's petition for an injunction against pldt.com, which would have effectively shut down the website, and ordered both parties to reach a settlement.

It might be too early to break out the champagne (as of this writing, Kaimo has yet to hear from PLDT's lawyers) but the local Internet community hailed it as a significant victory for freedom of speech in cyberspace.

Gerry Kaimo makes for an unlikely Don Quixote. Forty-something, chunkily-built, indifferently-dressed, he's more like a Pinoy Michael Moore, except that instead of making films like "Bowling for Columbine" and "Fahrenheit 9/11," Kaimo prefers to rake his muck on the Internet.

The beating heart of pldt.com is a little clearing in the living room/office of Kaimo's studio apartment, on which stands the iMac from which he issues his communiqués. The surrounding clutter—Kaimo moved in five years ago but it looks like he never unpacked—gives an indication of the occupant's many interests. An alcove is occupied by an exotic audio system, surrounded by stacks of LPs and CDs. Guitars sit on a corner. Leaning against another wall is Kaimo's idea of promotional merchandising: a riot shield emblazoned with the pldt.com logo, which he liked to lug around during Edsa Dos. "I wear many hats," he says.

Advocacy and artists

Kaimo traces his roots to Surigao—newscaster Mari is his brother—but his street smarts are pure Manila. He has always been a multi-tasker: While finishing his marketing course in San Beda on a football scholarship, he also worked as a mechanic in a speed shop tuning drag racers. After graduation, Kaimo found work in the close-in security group of one of then-President Marcos's ministers, an apprenticeship which has served him in good stead. After the People Power revolt of 1986, he applied his investigative talents in the PCGG and the Presidential Security Group, before opening his own private security consultancy, which remains his main gig today. His clients have included the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, the El Nido resort in Palawan, and Stevie Wonder.

In music circles, however, Kaimo is better known as the man behind N/A Records, the independent record label that is home to Cynthia Alexander, Noel Cabangon, Binky Lampano and Sheila and the Insects, among other original artists.

"N/A is an advocacy," he says. "I don't make any money out of it, but it's all about letting artists know that they can get their music out without having to be at the mercy of the record companies."

With N/A, Kaimo says talented artists have an alternative to the mainstream music industry and the often onerous conditions under which musicians have to work if they want to get a record out. Of course, not all artists thrive under this approach, but N/A has had some notable successes, in particular Cynthia Alexander's best-selling album "Rippingyarns."

A coalition forms

Kaimo could have happily gone on installing surveillance equipment and putting out CDs that nobody else would. But sometime in 1997, he received a call from his brother: PLDT was talking about implementing a local-call metering scheme, and a number of concerned citizens—mostly heavy Internet users whose phone bills would rise astronomically as a result—were forming a coalition to fight it. The anti-metering coalition, which soon proved itself a thorn in the telecommunications company's side, was named the Philippine League for Democratic Telecommunications, Inc. (PLDTI).

Kaimo's contribution to the cause was putting up pldt.com in December 1998, initially to serve as the anti-metering movement's mouthpiece on the Internet. For PLDT, however, it was to be the proverbial can of worms. Unfolding events were about to engulf both PLDT and pldt.com.

As it turned out, Edsa Dos was just around the corner, and the beleaguered Erap presidency was too tempting a target. Within months, Kaimo discovered "the power of insurgence," which remains pldt.com's slogan to this day.

Apart from taking potshots at the Erap regime, Kaimo made the website a vehicle for his other advocacies: consumer rights, the East Timor independence movement, government corruption.

The website struck a chord with the emerging cyber-activist movement: cyberspace was a whole new arena for political protest. "We started holding virtual rallies," says Kaimo. "People would email me 'cyberplacards'—little JPEG files with their slogans on it—and I would post them on the site. I had over six pages of them."

He also scooped the mainstream media on Edsa Dos, he says. "I posted the first picture of Edsa Dos, when there were only 14 people on Edsa."

Like a roving reporter, Kaimo covered the mounting anti-Erap rallies, calling his field reports in on his Nextel phone to a friend who ran a chatroom, who in turn passed his blow-by-blow accounts to overseas Pinoys online.

In no time, pldt.com became the portal for most of the anti-Erap websites that sprouted on the Internet during that time. For his role in Edsa Dos, Kaimo was later named one of Asia's "top 50 communicators" by Asiaweek Magazine. "I was one of four Pinoys," he says proudly. "After me came the Dalai Lama."

Causes beyond boundaries

Cyberspace knows no boundaries, and pretty soon the crisis in East Timor was another cause. "I posted pictures of decapitated East Timorese women," he recalls. "I guess the Indonesians didn't like it. That's my first conspiracy theory." By this time, the Indonesian Metro Pacific Holdings group had acquired its stake in PLDT from the Cojuangco family.

In any case, this was around the time PLDT filed its lawsuit against Kaimo, with PLDTI as a co-respondent. The suit hinged on the alleged "unauthorized use of trademark" and "unfair competition" posed by Kaimo's website.

As it turned out, PLDT hadn't registered the name "PLDT" as a trademark at the time of the lawsuit. They had also registered the domain name "pldt.com.ph" in 1996, a full two years before Kaimo registered "pldt.com." In the interim, the domain name had been registered by two other companies, both of whom let it lapse. The fact that PLDT hadn't bothered to dispute the domain name then, at least not until this madman started using it for all sorts of rants and screeds against telecommunications monopolies, the Estrada administration and the Indonesian government, would suggest that something other than trademark infringement was at the bottom of the brouhaha.

Nearly five years and numerous court hearings later, the fat lady still has to launch into her final aria. But if nothing else, Kaimo's experience with pldt.com has proven instructive for the emerging community of "concerned Netizens" as to how much political power they can wield with a mouse.

Diabetes in Motion

For 2004, the focus of Diabetes Awareness Week is "Diabetes in Motion". As developments in Diabetes Management keep on changing, there are things that remain the same, the importance of a healthy diet and exercise in diabetes prevention and management. Equal Sweetener with the support of the Philippine Center for Diabetic Education Foundation, Inc. would like to share with you helpful tips on how "keeping in motion" can help us in our fight against diabetes.

Philippine Center for Diabetic Education Foundation, Inc.

Loosen Up With Gentle, Simple S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-S

If the weather permits, it would be a perfect day for a walk through the park or the neighborhood. But wait, before you start, it's important to stretch your muscles effectively. Proper stretching not only will increase your flexibility and minimize your chances of pulling a muscle, it will also improve your stride and fluidity.

By following this simple routine, you can become loose and limber in a few minutes. Perform all stretches slowly with controlled movements - for 10-20 seconds taking slow, deep breaths. Do not bounce or stretch to the point of pain.

STANDING HIP STRETCH

Take a full step forward with your left foot. Gently bend left knee to lower hips, keeping right heel on ground and right knee straight. Switch and repeat.

STANDING QUAD STRETCH

Reach back to grasp your left ankle. Pull your foot toward your buttocks while placing other hand on a bench or chair for support. Switch and repeat.

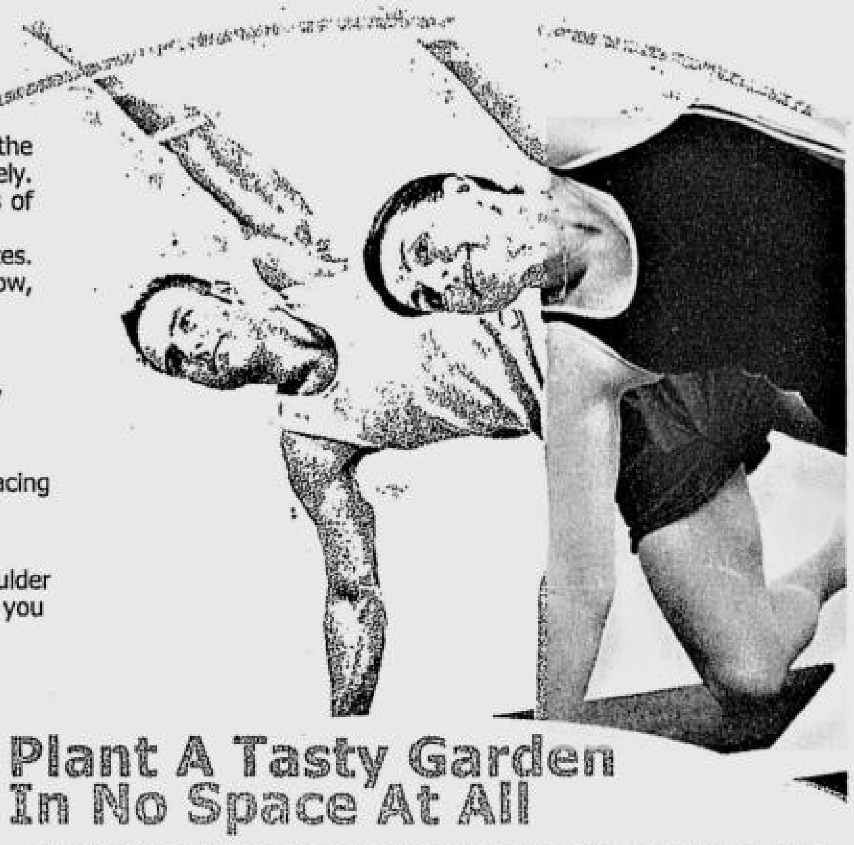
STANDING WALL PUSHES

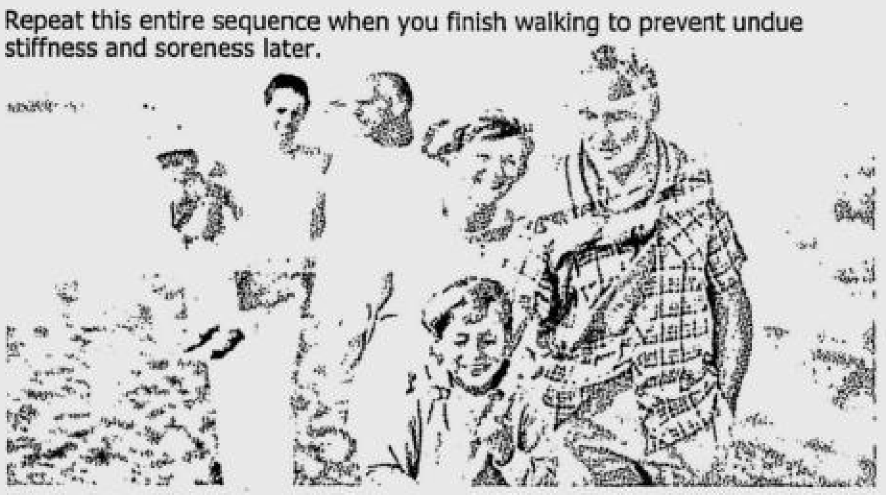
Stand arms length from a sturdy pole or wall. Place your hands on the wall at shoulder height, bend the elbows, lean in from the ankles and press your body upright until you feel a slight strain in your legs.

STANDING CALF STRETCH

Extend one leg in front of you and place the heel on the floor, toes in the air. Keeping the back straight, bend forward at the hips until you feel the stretch of the calves. Switch and repeat.

Repeat this entire sequence when you finish walking to prevent undue stiffness and soreness later.





Foot Care

by Mrs. Susan Bernal-Trinidad
Head Nurse Educator - Diabetes Educational Clinic, Makati Medical Center

Remember that small blister from an ill-fitting shoe? Maybe a dry skin which gets irritated and opens up...

In the case of the diabetic foot ulcers, an ounce of prevention is definitely worth a pound of cure.

Definitely, your lifestyle must change. Those who are smoking should QUIT smoking, those who are not exercising, MUST EXERCISE and CONTROLLING YOUR DIABETES MUST ALWAYS BE A PRIORITY. Always bear in mind that any cut, sore, bruise or blister must be treated in time to prevent the development of any foot ulcers. Even if you feel no pain in your feet, examine them carefully. This must be done daily.

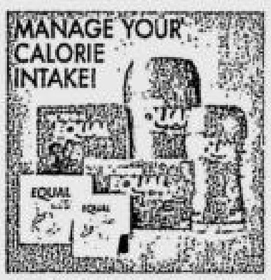
IMPORTANT FOOT WEAR FACTS:

Always wear cotton socks with your shoes to prevent blisters and sores. Make sure they are soft, comfortable and preferably seamless. Shop for shoes in the afternoon when your feet are slightly larger. Buy shoes that will stretch a little to accommodate your foot, rather than plastic or vinyl.

Try to avoid shoes that have narrow, pointed tip or high heels. Always check the insides of your shoes before putting them on to make sure that the lining is smooth and that there are no foreign objects inside.

Excellent diabetes control together with the adequate education of the patient and team management will allow effective treatment and prevention. For foot problems, visit our Limb Saving and Wound Care at Rm. 366 Diabetes Educational Clinic, Makati Medical Center. We are open Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Tel. # 893-6070.

MANAGE YOUR CALORIE INTAKE!



Cut and present this coupon at Mercury Drug stores and avail discount when you buy any of the following products:

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- Equal Spoonful 40g/80g

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Redeemable only at mercury drug stores nationwide

This coupon is valid from July 1 to October 31, 2004

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No 0708 Series of 2004 MDC approval ref OAVP-2004-DC35

Plant A Tasty Garden In No Space At All

There's nothing like the pungent and pleasant aroma of an herb garden. Herbs are wonderful because they GROW QUICKLY, and they demand VERY LITTLE ROOM.

Even if you have just three square feet of earth outside your kitchen door, or a few large planter pots, you have room for a tiny garden.

But what really makes herbs shine is what they add to meals. Fresh herbs sprinkled in a salad can turn something ordinary into a delight. Cooking with herbs enhances flavors you never knew were there.

Here are some easy-to-follow hints for growing an herbal delight of your own:

EASY TO PLANT:

- Herbs need some sunshine. Pick a spot that gets light at least part of the day.
- Good soil is essential. Turn it over several times with a garden trowel, removing small stones and other foreign objects. Add just a handful of peat moss per plant and work it in well.
- Space the plants well. Some herbs spread horizontal, so allow eight inches or more between plants.

EASY TO TEND:

- Water herbs often so the soil stays slightly moist.
- Snip the leaves with scissors around the top and center of the plant when you want to use some of the herb. Make sure you snip the plant every month or so, just before the plant begins to flower.

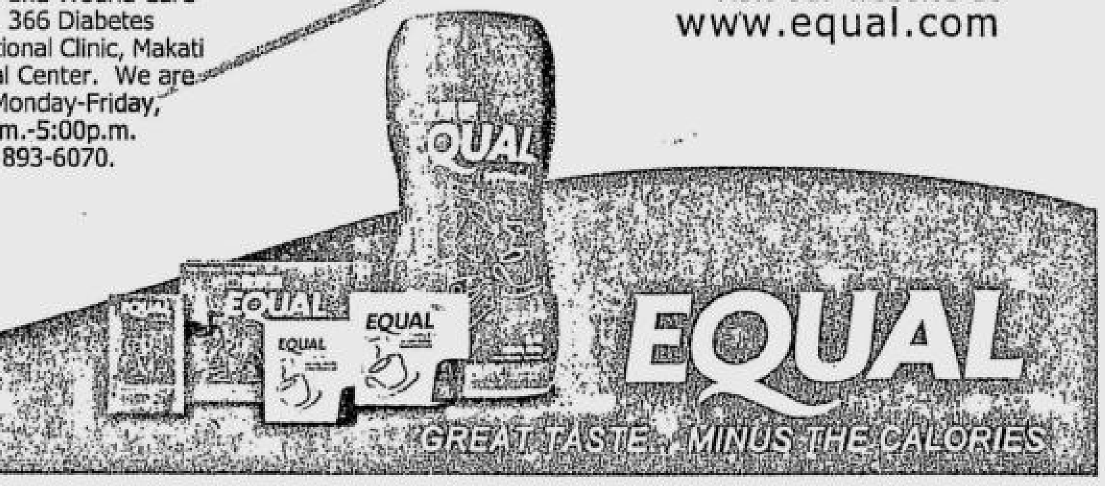
VERY EASY TO ENJOY!

- Rinse the cutting under cool water, pat dry and store them in the refrigerator.
- Fresh herbs area best used within a few days. To dry herbs, tie them in small bunches and hang them in a warm area until they crumble easily. Store herbs in sealed containers in a cool, dark place until they are ready for use.
- Herbs freeze well too, when dried and wrapped tightly in plastic wrap. Freeze a few pinches of your favorite herbs now for your sauces and dips sweetened with Equal Sweetener.
- Make a delicious marinade or glaze for fish, chicken or meat using soy sauce, shallots, your favorite herbs, orange juice and Equal.
- Make a rich pasta sauce by sautéing onion, garlic, a little olive oil, tomatoes, tomato paste, an herb called basil and Equal.
- Add a zing to your lemonade by adding mint leaves and sweetening it with Equal Sweetener.

Just check the calorie comparisons of the following servings with equivalent levels of sweetness:

	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sugar	32kcal	2 tsps.
Equal Sachet	4kcal	1 sachet
Equal Tablets	0kcal	2 tablets
Equal Spoonful	2kcal	2 tsps.

For more recipes using Equal, visit our website at www.equal.com



DIABETES IN MOTION

by
Dr. Augusto D. Litonjua
President,
The Diabetes Center, Philippines

Motion n. 1.The act or process of changing position or place. 2. A meaningful or expressive change in the position of the body or a part of the body. 3. Active operation. 4. A prompting from within; an impulse or inclination.

Our theme for this year's Diabetes Awareness Week activities, **"Diabetes in Motion"**, seeks to convey two messages.

The first message is a simple and practical one. **Motion** (i.e., Exercise or Physical Activity) is essential to good Diabetes Management.

Exercise includes anything that gets you moving. It could be walking, dancing, even doing household chores! You don't have to go to the gym or use fancy equipment to be physically active. There are many opportunities for you to be active throughout the day. For instance, walk instead of drive. Park your car at the far end of the parking lot then walk to your office. Or take the stairs instead of the elevator. Work in the garden, or do some housecleaning every day.

The benefits of exercise are numerous. Exercise can lower your blood glucose, blood pressure, and cholesterol. It can also reduce your risk for heart disease and stroke, relieve stress, and strengthen your heart, muscles, and bones. In addition, regular activity helps your insulin work better, improves your blood circulation, and keeps your joints flexible.

Exercise should always be part of any diabetes treatment regimen.

The second message is more abstract but hopeful. **Diabetes (Management)** is in Motion: that is, the treatment of diabetes is rapidly evolving. In fact, in the last few years, we have seen major shifts in the treatment approach to diabetes.

Earlier use of combination therapy (2 or more oral antidiabetic drugs, even in newly diagnosed patients) allows us to address both pathophysiologic defects in diabetes. Plus the recent availability of fixed-dose combinations decreases the pill-count for most patients.

Earlier institution of insulin therapy allows us to decrease the harmful effects of high blood glucose (glucotoxicity) and augment pancreatic function. Insulin is no longer considered the "last resort" but an effective therapeutic option that should be offered to the patient early in his treatment.

More aggressive control of glucose levels should be the norm in all patients, to target prevention not only of microvascular (small blood vessels, such as the retina, kidneys, nerves) but macrovascular (large blood vessels) complications. In addition, multiple risk factor intervention should be undertaken, looking not only at blood sugar levels, but also blood pressure, lipids (cholesterol and triglycerides), obesity (esp. abdominal obesity or "beer belly"), smoking and other cardiac risk factors such as: prothrombotic state, endothelial dysfunction, inflammatory markers.

Faster, less painful blood sugar testing! Easier, less painful insulin injections! The emphasis is on making your life easier. Ease of use and convenience characterize today's new diabetes products, such as new blood glucose monitors with multiple site testing, insulin pens, finer needles and lancets, even insulin pumps.

Ongoing research will soon make available to us new modalities of treatment, such as inhaled insulin, gut hormones (called incretins), islet cell transplantation, to name a few. Today, government and industry are spending billions of dollars in basic and clinical diabetes research so that one day we may "find a cure" for diabetes.

Who knows...it could happen in your lifetime.

DIABETES AWARENESS WEEK PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

A. PRELUDE:
July 18, 2004
BarCIE International Center,
Malolos, Bulacan

B. KICK-OFF ACTIVITIES:
July 25, 2004
Ayala Center, Cebu City

- Holy Mass
- Awarding of Diabetes Achievers
- Painting Contest, Cooking Demo
- Celebrities, Games and Surprises

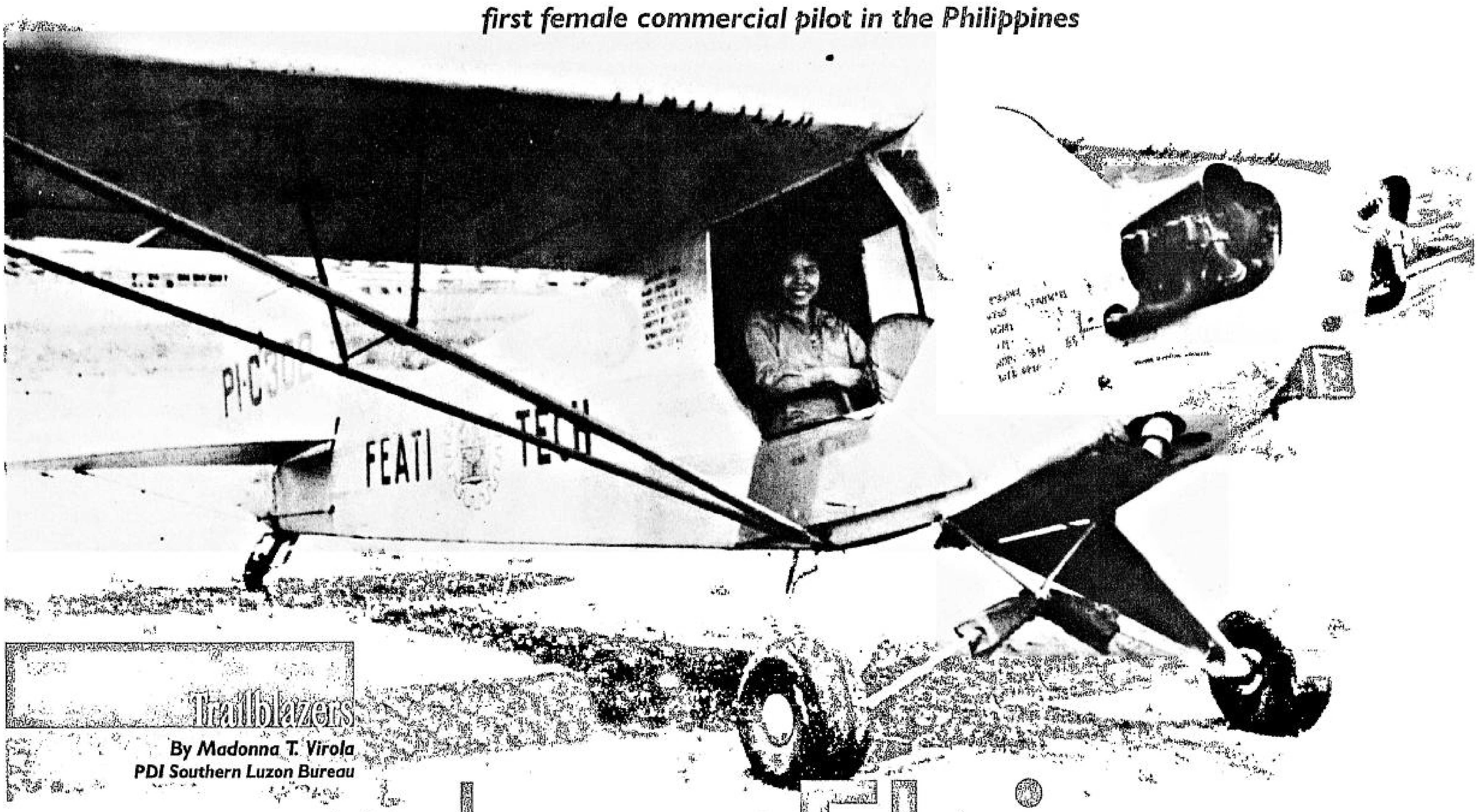
C. CLOSING CEREMONIES
August 1, 2004
Expo Trade, 4th Level
Festival Supermall, Alabang

- Holy Mass - 10 am
- Awarding of Diabetes Achievers
- Retrodance Contest
- Free Blood Glucose Testing/ Wet sampling
- Games and Surprise Guests

D. WEEK-LONG ACTIVITIES
August 8, 2004

- Lectures to public school teachers regarding healthy lifestyle and basic diabetes education
For reservations, please call 893-6070.

At a time when women were still expected to stay home, Virginia Flores-Rivera was flying higher than everyone else as the first female commercial pilot in the Philippines

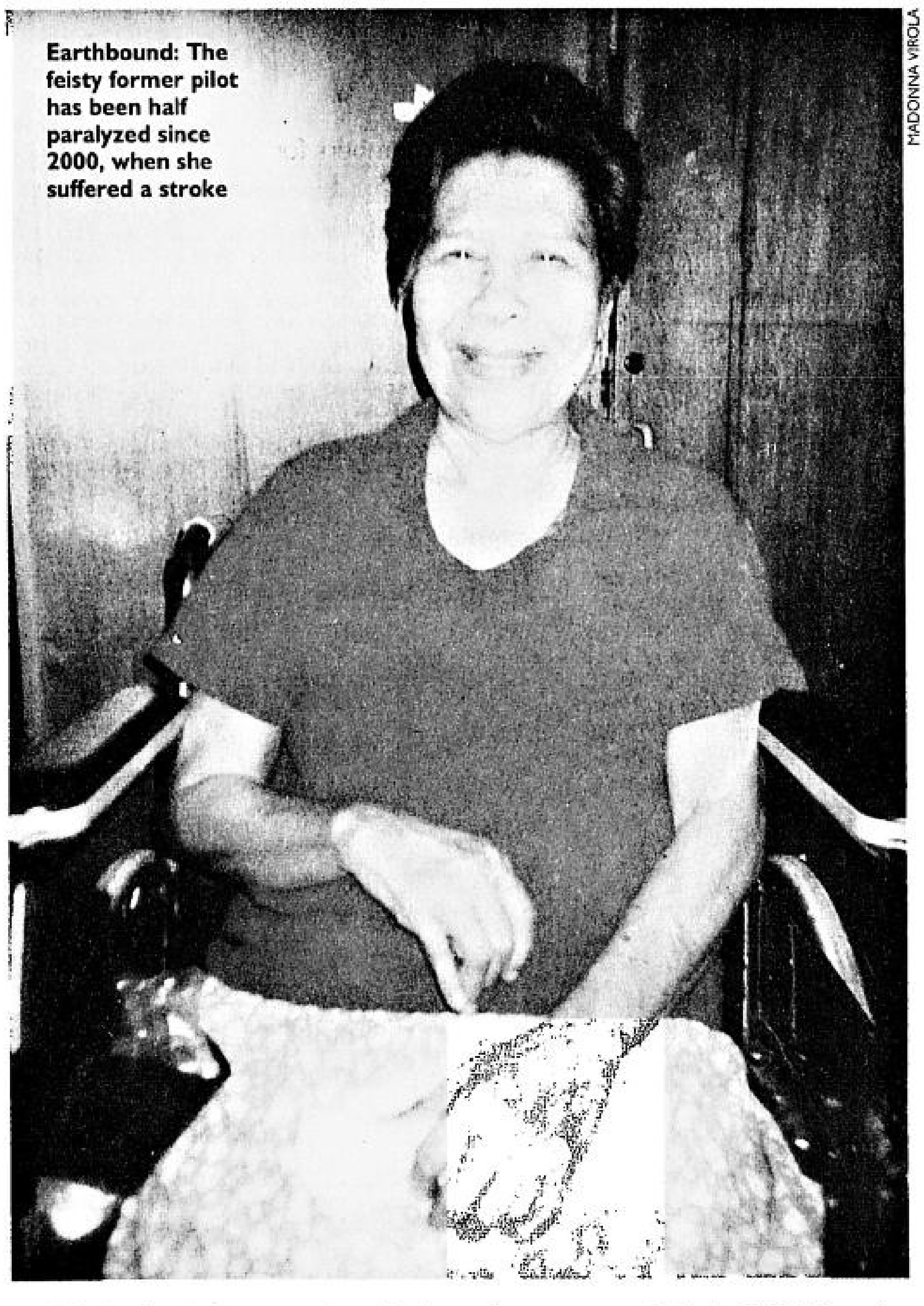


Trailblazers

By Madonna T. Virola
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Her Love of Flying

Photo courtesy of Calapan City Government Museum


Earthbound: The feisty former pilot has been half paralyzed since 2000, when she suffered a stroke

MADONNA VIROLA

AT 75, Virginia M. Flores vda. De Rivera spends her time in a wheelchair, the result of a stroke she suffered in March 2000, when her blood pressure shot up as she helped look for a kidney donor for her eldest son, Allen. Rivera is paralyzed on her right side.

But her memories are definitely sky-bound as she recalls how, even as a child, she would dream of flying on the proverbial "wing and a prayer." Says Rivera, "I used to see my fellow Calapeño, Lt. Jose Gozar, twisting and turning in the air as he flew over Calapan Bay during the Japanese time."

Rivera went on to become the country's first licensed commercial pilot, first licensed pilot instructress and first airways communicator specialist. She had to pay a steep price for the distinction, however. Because of the high frequency used in aeronautical mobile stations, her hearing was affected and people virtually have to talk to her in full volume to be understood.

This fifth of six siblings was born in Calapan, Mindoro in 1929, and was very athletic, says her nephew Ariel Agosto. His aunt used to join the provincial and regional sports competitions in schools, under what was then called the Southern Tagalog Athletic Association. "I was good at running and softball," says Rivera. "I could catch a fastball even from the rear. And I often scored at homeruns."

Her father died early, and Rivera soon assumed his tasks. "I grew up like a man—chopping wood, fetching water and doing chores usually done by men," she says, adding that she also loved to wear pants.

Learning to fly

After high school, Rivera's mother, Bibiana, had wanted her to teach, but her brother, Bienvenido, a taxi driver, had other ideas. Recounts Ariel, "During one of my aunt's vacation in Manila, he enrolled her in a flying school."

Rivera had never ridden a plane before, but she didn't let that stop her from enrolling at the FEATI Institute of Technology. In 1951, she completed her course in flying and became the second Filipina to fly, the first being Erlinda Tolentino. On July 13, 1950, after 10 hours and 35 minutes of flying with her instructor, an American, Rivera made her first solo flight.

This Calapan native went on to take up aeronautic engineering, but money constraints prevented her from going further than second year. The lone female student at the FEATI Flying School during her time regularly won in flying sports like acrobatics and spot-landing. In 1954, she passed the exams for commercial pilots and flight instructors despite their limited finances. Her neighbors saw other difficulties: They feared for her security as a woman. But Rivera was too focused on her dream to worry about her gender.

To become a private pilot, she had to hurdle 35 hours of solo, dual and cross-country flying. To qualify for the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) exams for commercial flying, one has to log in 200 cross-country hours. Rivera managed all that and flew to Hong Kong, Guam, Saigon and other countries, particularly when somebody would ask for her company.

Flying was "thrilling," she says, and she grabbed every chance she could to prolong her thrill. She was a ground instructor in the evening and would happily tutor her students for free before they took the exams.

Acrobatics and applause

For Rivera's birthday in 1950, she had her first cross country solo flight in a yellow-and-silver colored plane with the sign "Miss Calapan." She flew to her hometown and upon landing, was doused with water in a traditional ceremony called "dodo" by a celebrating crowd. At least 14 other planes carried her guests, which included her instructors, flight officials, classmates and members of the media. She treated her guests to aerial acrobatics that drew applause and cheers.

A careful flyer, she had an accident-free record. In fact, she adds, her only accident happened on firm ground. "The jeepney I was riding rammed a concrete fence," Rivera recalls. She sustained fractures on nine ribs, on her back and upper stomach area. Otherwise, life was good. Rivera was so popular in the 1950s that she became an endorser for Pepsi-Cola and a cigarette brand for newspapers.

Despite her success, the times were not quite ready for her. "I passed the test for Philippine Airlines but I was not taken in," Rivera recalls. She quoted the company official in Cebu as saying he won't get her "because there are no female commercial pilots yet." She replied, "I'm new in this field and if you won't help me, then I won't grow." Convinced, the official agreed to take her in if she would go back to Manila to renew her license.

Alas, her boyfriend did not allow her to go back to Manila and soon, the couple was married. Her husband, a Botany professor at the Araneta University, then asked her to stop teaching and flying. With three sons to rear, Rivera gave in. Her sons are now grown-up: Allen, 43, Dr. Eduardo (a veterinarian), 40, and Raulito, 37, an electrician in the city.

Marriage also meant disregarding the application given her by another suitor, an American pilot, that would have had Zonta International sponsoring her for the Amelia Earhart Flying School in the USA. She retired from the CAA (now the Air Transportation Office) in 1993.

Calapan honors

She went back to live in Barangay Gutad, Calapan with her husband, who became a barangay official and a member of a farmer's cooperative. After her husband died of sickness, Rivera wanted to stay on the farm, but her children, nieces and nephews would not leave her alone there. She now stays in an apartment in Calapan, where her children visit her.

During Calapan City's foundation anniversary last March, she was awarded the Gawad Tanglaw Calapeño for being the "First Lady Commercial Pilot in the Philippines." Photos and clippings on her are now found in the city museum. "I did not expect the award. My only purpose was to help," the awardee stresses.

But Ariel says his aunt got too excited about the award and met an accident at dawn of the awarding day. She had been feeling a little disoriented that morning, Ariel says, because she had been feeling bad the last few days. Doctors hope that she will be able to walk with a cane anytime soon, however. "The award helped her during the operation," adds Ariel, a medical technology graduate.

These days, Rivera's concerns are more earthbound. She gets by on a P12,000 GSIS pension per month but complains that she spends P4,000 to P5,000 on her medicines alone. Worse, she gripes, Calapan's pharmacies don't honor the 20-percent discount that senior citizens are entitled to. Such aggravations can indeed seem like a crash landing for this once airborne lady. Luckily, she will always have her memories of her days in the sky. Q

This Week

Art

Masdan ang mga Bata, watercolor and oil paintings of children by Caloy Gabuco at Shangri-La Function Room in Makati on Aug. 1 and 2.

Re: Union, a group show of drawings by Raul Agner, Buddy Ching and Edille Paras, until Aug. 6 at the Syano Artlink, 19 Shaghai St., Better Living Subdivision, Parañaque City.

Eternity, paintings and collages by Lino Severino at the Pinto Art Gallery, 1 Sierra Madre St., Grandheights, Antipolo City until Aug. 8.

Galak ng Paglalaro, Anthony Fermin's genre paintings in acrylic and watercolor, until Aug. 9 at the Museo Pambata, Bata sa Mundo Hall, Roxas Boulevard corner South Drive, Manila.

Water, Air & Earth, an exhibit of paintings and sculptures by Josemari De Leon Imao, at the NTC Gallery, National Telecommunications Commission, BIR Road, East Triangle, Diliman, QC until Aug. 10. It will also feature three acrylic on canvas paintings by Imao's father, Abdul Mari Imao, the multi-awarded Tausug artist.

The Asia Rice Foundation's photo contest features the theme "Rice is Life"

Wounds and Absent Objects, an installation exhibit by Nilo Ilarde at Mag:net Gallery Makati, Paseo Center, Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeno Sts., Makati City until Aug. 13.

Rekindling-47 Compositions of Colors and Forms in Relief Space features an array of large to small scale works done in acrylic and canvas by Roberto M.A. Robles at Galleria Duemila, 4/L, SM Megamall A until August 17.

A Place of Not Knowing, a multimedia installation by Silver Lens photographer Claudine Sia, until Aug. 19 at Lumiere Gallery, L.V. Locsin Building, Podium Floor, Ayala Avenue corner Makati Avenue. For details, call 812-2976.

The British Council teams up with Ilustrador ng Kabataan in presenting a joint exhibit of children's book illustrations, **Magic Pencil and *Meme Na***, from August 6-24 at the 3rd and 4th level of the Shangri-la Plaza Mall. For inquiries, call 914-1011 to 14.

Music

World-renowned Ars Nova, a choir from Plasencia, Spain, will perform in two concerts, **Voces Para Baseco** for the benefit of malnourished children from Baseco. Ars Nova will have shows at St. Cecilia's Hall of St. Scholastica's College on Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. and at San Agustin Church on Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at SM Megamall, SM Makati, SM Manila, SM Southmall and SM North EDSA. The choir will also have promotional tours at the 2nd floor lobby of The Podium at 7 p.m. on August 2, and the Grand Atrium of Shangri-La Edsa Plaza Mall at 6 p.m. on August 4. Tickets will also be available at The Podium and Shangri-La during the short performances of the choir.

Cinema

pelikula@titusbrandsma presents **sensual Korean films** featuring "La Belle" (2000), "Summertime" (2001) and "Lies" (1999) on August 14 at Titus Brandsma Center (24 Acacia Road, Cubao, Quezon City). For details, call 726-6054 (Jofti).

Onstage

Baby The Musical tells the heartwarming story of three couples on a university campus as they deal with painful, rewarding and agonizingly funny consequences of the universal experience of parenthood. The musical features Lea Salonga, David Shannon, Agot Isidro, Jett Pangan, Miguel Faustmann and Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo. It will run from Aug. 18 to Sept. 5 at the Meralco Theater. Tickets are now available at Ticketworld (891-9999) or call Atlantis Productions at 892-7078 and 840-1187.

Food

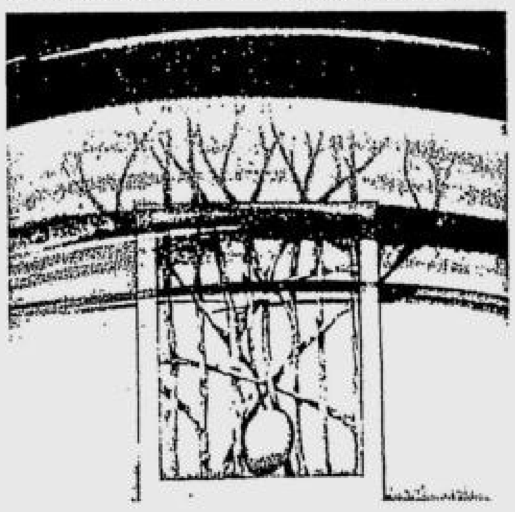
Alba Restaurante Español now offers not just lunch but also dinner buffet at value-for-money prices with a wide selection of appetizers, soups, salads, pasta, vegetable dish, entrées and desserts. Daily lunch buffet is available in all of the restaurant's branches from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The weekend dinner buffet is available from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays in Alba's Makati branch and every Thursday to Sunday for Tomas Morato and Eastwood branches. For inquires, call 896-6950 to 51 (Makati), 925-1912 (Tomas Morato) and 631-2216 to 17 (Eastwood).

Atbp

Photoworks: Class 12, a photography workshop to be conducted by NYFA and NYIP graduate Leo Castillo, will be held every Wednesday and Monday, 7-10 p.m., starting on August 4 at DPI Photography Center, Jose Escriva Ave, Ortigas Center. Class fee is P3,500; limited slots only. For more info, please contact 0917-8985362.

Free talk on **Make Karma Work for You** by BK Mohini Punjabi on Aug. 5, 6:30-8 p.m. at The Ballroom, Mondragon House, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City. For details, call, 890-7960 / 4149421 / 5212015.

With the aim of encouraging children to take part in disaster preparedness activities, the Citizens' Disaster Response Center is once more conducting its annual poster-making contest for children dubbed as *Apoy, Bagyo, Kalamidad, Dibuhong Pambata*. There are two categories designed for different age brackets. Category A is for children ages 7-9 and category B for ages 10-12. For each category, children can choose from a set of disaster types as subject for their design. Cash prizes await winners. The deadline for all entries is on Sept. 15. For details, call 927-7860 or 929-9822 or e-mail rpidcdrc@i-mail.com.ph.



Salvador "Buddy" Ching's "Hiwalay," part of the "Re: Union" exhibit at the Syano Artlink

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

The **Basic Course on Fund Raising** will be held August 16-19 back to back with the Manager's Guide to Financial Decision-Making course on August 20 at the Sta. Maria Room, Discovery Suites, 25 ADB Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. The two workshops, organized by Venture for Fund Raising, may be taken separately or together. For inquiries, call Valerie Remoquillo at 634-8889 to 90 or email lerie@venture-asia.org.

The University of the Philippines Office of the President is hosting a **Testimonial Dinner for Donors of the University** on August 4, 6 p.m. at the Executive House, UP Diliman, Quezon City. The event is UP's way of expressing gratitude to the persons and institutions who supported the UP Modernization Fund Campaign. For confirmation and inquiries, contact Nelda at telefax no. 928-2888 or Lou at telefax no. 929-1288.

The Asia Rice Foundation invites amateur and professional photographers to join the **photo contest** with the theme "Rice is Life." Pictures should include all aspects of rice from seedlings to planting, harvesting, bringing to market and to the dining table, also rice cultural heritage like festivals, beliefs and rituals. Entries can be color or black and white, 8 x 10 prints, slides (35mm) or digital images from 300 dpi and above without alteration. It must have a title, place, date taken, name and address of photographer at the back. Entries may be submitted to MN PhotoPro, Rm. 227, LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City or mail to The Asia Rice Foundation, Los Baños, 403 Laguna, postmarked August 17. Photographs must be original and have not been published. For inquiries, call 896-3208 or (049) 536-2285.

Cupertino Center for Special Children accepts orders for a variety of paper products

Dove accepts nominations for the **Search for Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina 2004** to honor young women aged 18 to 30 who are engaged in the pursuit of excellence in the fields of music, dance, visual arts, literature, business and entrepreneurship, and science and technology. These women should also extend their passion for their craft to members of their circles, devising ways of converting talent into useful endeavors which benefit otherwise unproductive communities. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished nomination forms is 12 midnight of Aug. 21 All entry forms must include a proof of purchase of any Dove product and placed in a sealed small brown envelope and send to Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina, Bridges@Com, Inc. office, 6/F, Mondragon House, 324 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. For inquiries, call 588-7282 or 812-3542.

The **Ateneo Alumni Scholars Association** will gather together all its scholar graduates from 1991 to 2004 on August 14 at the Ateneo de Manila University campus for a day of fun and entertainment. For details, contact Jona Gonzales at 426-4324 or 426-6001 loc. 5156 or email asf-sssf@admu.edu.ph.

Savor the *Paella Rollo Hierbas* at Alba Restaurante Español

Cupertino Center for Special Children's Paper Making Center accepts orders for personalized and corporate cards, invitations, certificates and other handmade paper giveaways and souvenir products made of genuine abaca pulp paper. For orders, call 928-4115 or visit the center at Mangyan Road, La Vista Subdivision, QC.

World's Food Expo 2004 will run from Aug. 4-7 at the World Trade Center featuring Baker's Fair, Foodmach Expo, World Food Summit, Exporters' Supermarket and The Taste of Expo. Free seminars will also be conducted. For details, call 426-9603, 436-4898 and 929-2963.

X-manila

The **Santa Rosa High School** (now Santa Rosa Educational Institution) Class of 1979 will celebrate its 25th year anniversary with a homecoming on Aug. 7 at the SREI Annex Grounds, Tatlonghari Street, Santa Rosa, Laguna. A motorcade at 1 p.m. will start the festivities. For details, contact Cielo Lijauco-de Guzman at (049) 534-1084 or (0917) 501-2489 or email rcx2co@laguna.net.

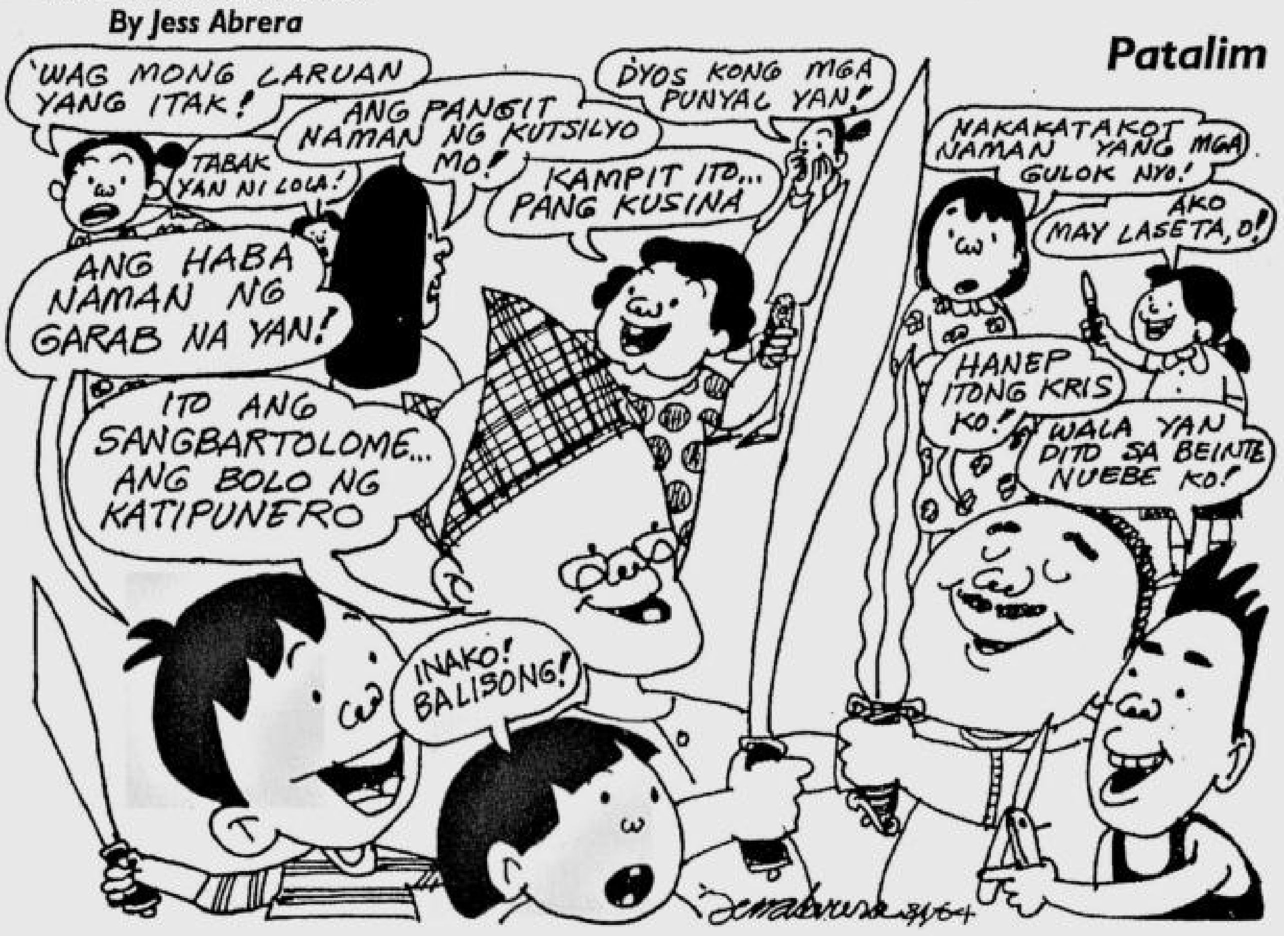
***Hinabol nga Pagtuo*: An Ethno-iconographic Representation of Saint Augustine as a Visayan**, a painting exhibit by Fr. Dominador Besares, O.S.A. featuring poems by John Iremil E. Teodoro at Museo Iloilo, Bonifacio Drive, Iloilo City until August 9.

***Gingined* (Earthquake), An Offering, Then and Now**, a multimedia art exhibit featuring the works of various artists at Tamawan Village, Baguio City, until Aug. 20.

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Patalim



'WAG MONG LARUAN YANG ITAK!
TABAK YAN NI LOLA!
ANG PANGIT NAMAN NG KUTSILYO MO!
DYOS KONG MGA PUNYAL YAN!
KAMPIT ITO... PANG KUSINA
NAKAKATAKOT NAMAN YANG MGA GULOK NYO!
AKO MAY LASETA, O!
ANG HABA NAMAN NG GARAB NA YAN!
ITO ANG SANGBARTOLOME... ANG BOLO NG KATIPUNERO
HANEP ITONG KRIS KO!
WALA YAN DITO SA BEINTE NUEBE KO!
INAKO! BALISONG!

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

A New Communion for A New World

I felt I was receiving Holy Communion because I received and welcomed into my heart the broken Body of Jesus in the brokenness and woundedness of my friends

IN ONE of the weekends I attended some four or five years ago, I was with a group of four who shared their "imprisonments." The first said, "I feel imprisoned by this terrible self-distrust because of my buck teeth and elephant ears." The second said, "I feel imprisoned by my homosexual tendencies." The third said, "I feel imprisoned by painful memories of my past adulterous pregnancies and two criminal abortions." And the fourth said, "I feel imprisoned by this temptation to distrust all of you even now as I share my brokenness with this group."

I was watching my companions in the group. We were all struggling, wrestling with ourselves on whether or not to expose our woundedness to each other. As we were stripping ourselves before each other to expose our nakedness and woundedness to the group, we all felt defenseless and vulnerable before one another. I knew we were all afraid that some of us might ridicule, belittle or betray us.

I saw in each one of my groupmates the Person of Jesus Christ at the Last Supper holding the broken bread, and saying, "Here is my broken Body. Eat it." I also saw in each of them the same Jesus on the Cross with His hands spread out, and saying: "Here is my wounded Body—naked, bleeding, broken and helpless before you." In that group, I felt I was receiving Holy Communion because I received and welcomed into my heart the broken Body of Jesus in the brokenness and woundedness of my friends. I also felt I was giving Holy Communion because I took the risk of exposing my own wounds, my weakness, my very imperfect self at the feet of my friends, and offer them as a source of healing.

It was a New Communion Experience for all of us. And we said to ourselves, "What happened in our small group can also happen in the larger world of peoples and nations." And together we dreamed. We dreamed of a time, not very far from now, when peoples and nations will kneel at one another's feet, and offer humbly their broken humanity to each other, saying: "Here, take my Body and my Blood for your nourishment and healing."

That, my Friends, will be the day of a New Communion Towards a New Word. I thank the God of my youth for daring me to dream.

Group Reflection

1. What part of the homily are you most grateful for? Why?
2. Have you ever experienced exposing your woundedness to another? Share your experience.

Group Prayer

1. Allow each one to "dream" about a New Communion for a New World. (5-10 minutes)
2. Share your dream with the group.
3. Come together and pray about your dreams.

Group Action

Visit the Christian Community of Formation (or Fundacio) and get to know more about them and this New Communion for a New World.

119-A Scout de Guia
Kamuning, Quezon City
Or call tel. no. 922-9834

***

This piece serves as my adieu to my good friend Monsignor Soc Villegas, who will soon move on to the Diocese of Balanga to replace Bishop Honesto E. Ongtioco who now serves as Bishop of the new Diocese of Cubao.

In my recent book, "Idol," I wrote a dedication to His Excellency Socrates B. Villegas, "my idol… my hero, and more than a hero, he is my Bishop, and more than anything else, he is just Soc, a friend!" Thank you, Soc, for the years you had been here for us.

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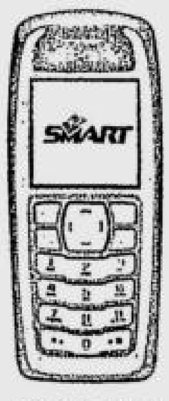

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